

process. And it also maintains the system that we have with the State College Board. It's a blending of the two, and quite honestly I think it's a blend that can work and will work. With that, that's the background that I'd like to at least give the body as they're talking about this particular amendment. I will not be supporting the McFarland amendment at this particular point, but I urge the body to look at all the information you have before you and some of the details, and obviously make up the best minds that they can. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, you're next, but may I introduce some guests of Senator Dierks. Under the north balcony he has his daughter, Stephanie Dierks, and friend Jerry Upp of Gering, Nebraska, who is a veterinary student at Ohio State. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. Senator Crosby, please.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Well, it's disappointing to me this morning that it seems that Lincoln is standing here alone, Lincoln senators. And everyone thinks that we're here to change everything and to strengthen Lincoln. I don't think that should be the attitude at all. I think as a state of a million and a half people, and a preponderance of the population in capital investment on one end of the state, you have to think about where your resources are, but also think in a statewide way in how those resources work across the state, and how they are best used. So I stand on this amendment in opposition because, as a general rule, I like people to be elected. People who are going to use tax money, distribute tax money, decide how that tax money is used, should be elected, because they answer to a constituency of voters. And the person that is appointed is responsible to that person that appoints to whatever board it is. The second half of that is that we load, the Governor's office, the executives office is loaded with appointments right now. Almost every bill that goes through with a new concept in this Legislature has a new commission, or supervisory board, or advisory board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature. What we're doing here is adding another 42 appointments. So I would not go for the regents to be...all be appointed. I think the State College Board ought to be elected. We appoint the State College Board, we elect the regents, we elect the community college boards, so the State College Board should be elected, too. And when we come through this whole effort, next year, whatever happens in November, if we end up with appointments and we have to go