

well, what about subsequent appointments by the Governor? Would they also have to be approved by the Legislature? And there is, to my understanding, no specific, clear language there that indicates that subsequent appointments to the Board of Regents would be approved. Therefore this amendment, and I've passed it out, just basically says that and clarifies, I think, that not only would the initial appointments to the Board of Regents have to be approved by the Legislature, but the subsequent appointments in future years would also have to be subject to the approval of the Legislature. I suspect, maybe, that is what was intended by the...in the original bill, but it is...because it was not explicitly stated, a concern was raised to me about that not being clearly specified. So this amendment would require that all appointments made by the Governor be subject to the approval of the Legislature. I think there is good reason for that. I don't see the Legislature as necessarily, you know, second-guessing the Governor on appointments all the time. But I think the practice has been that any time appointments are made by the Governor that they be subject to legislative review. And I would suspect that it would be appropriate that in all cases they be subject to legislative review for appointment to the Board of Regents, as well, if it is created in the new form. And, for that reason, I urge you to vote in favor of these amendments.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem, please, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, I was...maybe, Senator McFarland, if the amendment does what you say it does, there is absolutely no problem with it, as far as I am concerned. Maybe Senator Warner can shed some light on why there may be some problems with it. But I would see no problem with that. I'm, frankly, having trouble reading, because we're amending the committee amendments, and then saying in the committee amendments to amend a particular portion of the bill. Can you show me, on the green copy of the bill, exactly where "with the approval of the Legislature" will go, and how that will read.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: No. (Laughter.)

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you, Senator McFarland. I appreciate that.