

total amount of funds going back to the Board of Regents. But this amendment would allow the Board of Regents to have the final discretion, and I think that is as it should be. If the Board of Regents is to function in any way more than just an advisory board, it must also have the ability, once it is put in place, to distribute those funds to the various institutions and not be bypassed and second-guessed by the Legislature all the time. The fact of the matter is that the Board of Regents is under some constraint, they just can't blindly and wildly make...you know, take that lump sum appropriation and distribute it as it sees fit. There has to be some compliance with legislative intent, some compliance with the will of the Legislature and perhaps of the Governor...

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...because there is always a risk that the Legislature, the next year, would take penalty actions against the Board of Regents. I'll continue later. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lowell Johnson, please.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: On the resolution.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Just very quickly, on this particular amendment again, and I hate following Senator Warner, because he knows so much about the appropriations and budget, it's very difficult to question anything that he says, because he is so knowledgeable. But there are people who did testify at the Education Committee hearing on this particular...on 239CA and 1141. And I am going to read to you, so this will be in the record, some concerns from the Lincoln Friends of the University of Nebraska and Jim Roberts, who many of you know, I know is the person who presented these. And I'm just taking a couple of things which has to do with this subject of the appropriation. Their first concern relates to the decision-making power and authority of the new Board of Regents. The legislation which is before us places final funding decisions for both curriculum and capital construction projects. This is a quote from his testimony, "It is our strong belief that while it may be appropriate for the