

three regents from each congressional district appointed every two years, staggered terms. It was interesting, I proposed this because it seemed to me to be the most efficient way to do it. I know that the recommendation had been made previously that...in one of the previous studies that the board of regents be appointed by the Governor. I reviewed that report last night, and it was interesting because not only they recommended they be appointed by the Governor, they recommended it be appointed as a nine member board, and that three be from each congressional district, which matched exactly what I was proposing. This is something that we discussed yesterday a little bit, because of the problem I see of the hybridization of the board of regents under the present proposal. Because, under the present proposal, you'd have a 6 elected, 5 appointed, 11 members, which I think are too many, and a mish-mash of elected and appointed regents. And I think, from a practical standpoint and from a theoretical standpoint, it doesn't make sense to have that type of mix. My view is that the only reason we have six and five is for the political reason that that kind of an arrangement might be acceptable to the voters. It's interesting, the past few days, since I've been proposing amendments to this bill, I had proposed amendments out of legitimate concern about this entire process. I had voted against it in committee. I'm concerned, generally, about the, Senator Lamb calls them the seven political fiefdoms that are being established by having seven different boards of trustees, all the members appointed by the Governor, seeing that those seven little political centers are going to probably battle one another, and battle one another on the Legislature, to see which one comes out ahead. And I have a concern about that. I really had a concern about the authority of the board of regents under the system that was designed. And one of the reservations I had was...had to do with the amendment that I just offered, because I think you really, under the present system you really delegated the real authority for the coordination of higher education directly to the Legislature. I don't think that's right. And I think the end result is that, if this bill passes, you're going to have a situation where every institution is going to be wishing that they had the old system back, because I don't think any of them are going to be satisfied with what will happen. And I think you'll see a leveling effect among the institutions. I think you'll see a situation where the various institutions will be even more resentful of one another and what one institution gets as opposed to what one other institution does not get. Since I've been proposing these amendments, I've