

Committee..or, excuse me, the head of the Appropriations Committee, the head of the Education Committee, and the Speaker of the Legislature. And lots of people, who have called me to express their concerns about the bill, say, look, I'd like you to propose this amendment, but you can't use my name, or you can't say that I'm the one who's proposing this because we're afraid of the political consequences in the Legislature that may happen, if we are mentioned as arguing against this bill. So, as a result, while I'm hearing a lot of these concerns from various and numerous people, I don't think the majority of the body are hearing those concerns. And I'm concerned about the way...the perception that is being created by the majority of the persons...in the minds of the majority of the persons in this legislative body. One senator told me, last week, he said, look, I'm probably going to vote for this bill. He said, it's no big deal to me, I haven't heard from my constituents on the thing. And, besides, there is no way the people are going to approve this thing when it's put to a vote, because there are just too many appointments for the Governor to make to the board of trustees, and it just raises too many questions, but I'm going to vote for this bill anyway, probably, but I think the voters are going to reject it in the end, so I'm going to vote for it, it will be...I'll go along with it for now, and the voters are going to take care of it. I don't think you can go on that assumption. If you really have reservations about this bill yourself, contact, go out and contact some of the people that you talk to on educational issues and ask them what they really think about the bill, ask them...tell them you're not going to quote them and you're not going to tell exactly who's objecting, but ask them their honest opinions about this entire process, and I think you'll be surprised how many people are opposed to this bill.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR McFARLAND: It would be very easy for me to be an obstructionist on this bill. We've got 17 days left in the legislative session, I could offer other amendments to this bill, I could offer a number of them which could delay this bill probably today, and tomorrow we have New Horizons, and we could maybe stall this bill out. And, if I use the tactics that have been used on the abortion bills, I'm sure that I, individually, could probably stop this bill from being advanced and getting to a final vote. But I don't think that's fair to the sponsors. I've never done that, and I don't plan to start now, because I