

we have a number of offices that do not appear on a ballot, county fair boards, state fair board, cemetery boards, Class I school districts, and there may be more that fit in that category that I don't remember right at this time. But this amendment would allow a member of the Legislature or an elective officer of the state...elected officer of the state to hold one of those types of positions if the members of that particular group, and that's a rather restricted group in most of these cases, decided at a general meeting, an election meeting of that group, that they wanted this person to serve in that capacity. We find from time to time that members of the Legislature, prior to coming to the Legislature, have had a long history of involvement in areas such as these and it is my personal opinion that it's very difficult to predict a conflict of interest in situations such as this. It would be a rare occasion but it could happen that there would be a conflict of interest. I can't see that there's ever been a demonstrated issue, to my knowledge, in the state of that happening. This is, quite frankly, what has been accepted up until the recent Supreme Court...or the recent Attorney General's Opinion as a proper interpretation of the law. But the Attorney General's Opinion cast doubt upon how our dual officeholding statute applied in real life. So this is my attempt to maintain in statute what had always been or has always been done in principle in the state. So, with that, I would encourage the adoption of this amendment and I would certainly be open to any questions that a member of the body might have. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. We're now discussing the Coordsen amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Owen Elmer, did you wish to speak about the Coordsen amendment? No? Senator Dierks, the Coordsen amendment?

SENATOR DIERKS: No, on the bill.

PRESIDENT: No. Senator Schimek, the Coordsen amendment? No. Senator Coordsen, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR COORDSEN: Move the adoption of the amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of the Coordsen amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.