

Governor...originally we said the Governor or the Governor's designee, we change that to say the Governor. The Governor will be sitting there. The Commissioner of Education will be sitting there. Two members of the Legislature will be sitting there. They will be involved. I think this, putting the Governor, giving the Governor the appointments might strengthen the Governor's hand, and I think we need to do that in the area of higher education, and I am not being critical of any particular Governor. I think as long as I have observed the legislative process, the administrative process, higher education policy making, the Governor really has not taken a strong leadership role in the area of higher education. Bob Kerrey brought forward some recommendations from the Strauss Commission that did not advance, brought through some budgetary sort of recommendations. They didn't advance. Governor Orr has brought forward the research initiative and some faculty salary initiatives, but those are largely budgetary as opposed to major sort of changes. So it may be good to strengthen the Governor's hand. Secondly, it might end the parochialism that could exist under this board if each board appointed their own people. Then they'd go to this commission arguing for their own turf. So those are things that appeal to me. Things that take away from it, though, is it may take away the input that the institution itself might feel that it should have, if their representatives aren't their own necessarily. There also is a possibility that the Governor would choose people that are really out of sync with the rest of the board, and I think it is no secret to anybody that has followed the current Board of Regents that there is a split, and it is important, I think, that that Board of Regents would be able to choose their representatives and the representatives would be supportive of the majority view on the Board of Regents. There would be a possibility if the Governor would choose them that they wouldn't be. So I think at this point I am not going to vote for the amendment, but I might be convinced if it doesn't get adopted now and it gets brought up at a later time that I might be supportive of it. As far as the independents' involvement in this process, I think all the consultants and the people who are on the commission felt that you could not coherently plan for the education of young people in our state, in our higher ed system, or even middle-aged people in our higher ed system without taking into account the fact that an independent sector does exist. Now we are not putting them in the level where there is power to enforce decisions because we can't do that, though I think when we are in the process of strategic planning and deciding how can we