

adoption of the E & R amendments say aye. Opposed no. Carried, they are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Schimek. Senator, your amendment is on page 1370 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body, you have in front of you also a handout that just was passed out about five minutes ago that explains the amendment. This amendment to the bill will call for a totally elected Board of Regents. There would be nine members instead of the present eight, in order that there would not be a divided vote that you would always have opportunity to have a majority vote. One member would be elected from each of nine districts and the way I envisioned this was that there would be three regents' districts within each congressional district. That would, of course, have to be done under the new reapportionment. And then in the beginning the Governor would appoint four members of the Board of Regents and at least one from each congressional district and five members of the Board of Trustees, one from each congressional district, and the term of office would be the same. My purpose in introducing this amendment was to give us an opportunity to further discuss the idea of the hybrid board that we talked about in earlier discussions. I did not get up to speak on those earlier occasions, but I've been thinking about this and I have to share with you that my philosophy has always been in favor of letting the people decide when it comes to running government and I really believe that the hybrid board with six elected members and five appointed members wouldn't be as fully democratic as I would like it to be. It seems to me that we had a little discussion on this floor earlier about whether people really knew who their regent was and does it really matter whether we have elected or appointed regents because people don't seem to know who that person is. I would submit to you that probably many people in your legislative district do not know who their state senator is. To me, that is not a good rationale for deciding whether or not we should have elections in any given situation. The important thing is, the important thing about an election is that people have the opportunity to study the issues, to become informed about their university or their college or whatever and they have the opportunity to pick a candidate based on his or her