

qualifications, philosophies and so forth. It seems to me that an argument was also made on the floor about the cost of campaigning and how people would not want to be a regent if they had to spend a lot of money on a statewide race. My answer to that is, with nine districts you do have a smaller geographic area from which to run. It would not be quite as expensive as it would be for the six regents under the hybrid system and campaigns may be arduous and they may be time consuming. I know they are because I've run statewide in 1986. But they are a good process for informing the public about the issues and winnowing out the strongest candidate. You will notice that in my...there are a couple of sheets of quotes that I handed out which one of my student interns prepared for me regarding democracy and I thought some of them were worth repeating and I guess my favorite one is the one that Calvin Coolidge reportedly said it would be folly to argue that the people cannot make political mistakes. They can and do make grave mistakes. They know it, they pay the penalty, but compared with the mistakes which have been made by every kind of autocracy, they are unimportant. I think that is very well said and really says what I want to say on this floor today better than I can say it. People do need to have that responsibility and that opportunity to judge for themselves the issues of the day. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. For purposes of discussion, the Chair recognizes Senator McFarland, followed by Senators Withem, Crosby and Nelson. Senator McFarland.

SENATOR McFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if I could ask Senator Schimek a couple questions.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schimek, would you respond?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Certainly.

SENATOR McFARLAND: Senator Schimek, am I understanding this correct? This would be a nine-member board of regents, is that correct?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct.

SENATOR McFARLAND: Hired three from each congressional district?