

policies, but they have become elected just simply because they have names that are comfortable and then they operate for six years without having to be accountable to the public, they really aren't very accountable. There really is more accountability through an individual and everybody in the state knows, everybody in the state participates in the voting for that person, the Governor, making appointments and then those appointed officials have to then be accountable to the Governor and if they mess up, we know who to blame. We blame the Governor. The Governor is the one who has not provided the type of leadership that would be necessary...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...under that type of arrangement. So I am not going to support Senator Schimek's amendment. I think the balance we have, there's been some talk of maybe providing a different sort of balance, more elective and less appointive. Something like that I might be able to consider and support, but at this point I think the balance that is provided for in LR 239 is preferable and I am going to be opposing the Schimek amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, Senator Nelson on deck.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I probably will support Senator Schimek's amendment with mixed feelings because I think most of you know I don't want any change at all. I don't want this on the ballot and I don't want 1141, but I probably am somewhat of a minority. I'm used to being a minority anyway. But I'd like to comment on a couple of things that have been said today and in the past. I figured out that if you have the original...the way it is originally with six people, that would put about 200,000 people, a little more than 200,000 people in each district. This way it would make around 177,000, I think, which is no big difference, but in this...there's two things like in the handout that Senator Schimek sent around with all the quotations, I like the one from Fosdick, Harry Emerson Fosdick, democracy is based upon the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people. I just can never understand why appointed people are going to be so much more expertise or expert, at whatever they're supposed to do, than people who are elected. We're all elected. Are we putting ourselves in the category of