

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President and members of the body, I would, but I would first like to yield a little of my time to Senator Schellpeper.

PRESIDENT: Okay, did you say how much, or just till he feels like quitting?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: What he...

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Schellpeper, please.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. President and members, I won't need very much time. I just want to make the statement that I have a lot of problem when you have the regents appointed and I think the sponsors of this bill, even if it passes here, I think if they wanted to really pass the voters, they are going to have to have the regents be elected. I don't see any other way that it will pass the voters. I think they need to keep that in mind. You know, we can pass it here, but I think if they want the voters to pass it this fall, they are going to have to have the regents elected. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body, I...I'm not sure that Nebraska is just like every other state when we say that most experts think that we ought to have appointive boards rather than elective boards. I'm not sure that I buy into that argument. You know, Nebraska has traditionally had sort of a frontier attitude about its government and its style of living and I think that we have a populace heritage here in this state that really gives a lot of credit to the individual and to the individual's determination of his or her own destiny. I mean, I can think back a couple of years ago just to the seat belt matter. We have a streak, I guess, of independence and wanting to have control over our own situations. I do believe that, as Senator Crosby has mentioned prior in the discussion, the people of Nebraska really do believe in elective offices and the polls have consistently shown that. I didn't turn my light on to speak a second time because I really did want to hear this debate. I think it's an important issue. I think it's something that we need to be very careful about changing and I think that the hybrid board, I can understand Senator Warner's and Senator Withem's arguments on