

it to take, could do nothing at all. But if it decides to do something then we could take the boards individually or we could read it a different way and we could say the Legislature may provide that some or all of the appointed members of each board of trustees and say, well, the purpose of that language is to require that if you do this at all, it has to be done for each board. But that's not really the way the language reads. We can take each board as a discreet entity separate from all the others and deal with it in terms of requiring some of the board members to be elected from this area of services, primary service responsibilities or otherwise. Now, having said that, I want to ask Senator Withem a question or two, if I may. Senator Withem, first of all, what does the word "consistent" in line 5 mean when we say "consistent with the institution's primary service responsibilities"? And I'm not going into those other words yet. I want to do that separately. Does "consistent with"...well, what does "consistent with" mean?

SENATOR WITHEM: Well, it means, and I can't describe the word outside of the context of the full sentence in which it is in.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, go ahead then.

SENATOR WITHEM: Institutions have primary service responsibilities. They have been established by statute in our role and mission statute. The Legislature, under this language, would be authorized to place as a condition to a person being serving on one of these boards that they live in or be knowledgeable in one of the areas of which that...in which institutions service the states. For instance, the state colleges tend to service geographic areas. The University of Nebraska at Lincoln services the entire state. UNO has the role and mission of being primarily an urban institution. The Med Center, obviously, has medical education. When the Legislature sets up qualifications for people to serve on these boards, they can say, whoever's sitting in the Legislature two or three years from now can say, the University of Nebraska...the University of Nebraska at Lincoln must have representation from throughout the entire State of Nebraska.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, stop there for a minute so I can ask you a question based on what you said.

SENATOR WITHEM: You bet.