

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, how much time did you say I had?

PRESIDENT: Oh, about 40 seconds.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I'll relinquish that and then turn on my light.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, did you wish to speak about this? Is Senator Schmit here? Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would like to comment on this. Part of my explanation on it was given in the dialogue with Senator Chambers. The other part is...would like to address is why this needs to be in the Constitution. As my...it is my understanding that when you establish boards in the Constitution, you must do one of two things. You must either state their requirements for service in the Constitution, or, if you want to do it by statute, you must provide authorizing language. Senator Chambers, let me repeat that. I know my legal counsel was visiting with you about something else so let me repeat that. It is my understanding that when you establish boards via the Constitution, you must do one of two things. You must either provide in the Constitution what the specific requirements for service are, such as an AIDS requirement, if you'd wish to do that, or, in the case of the voting student member, we have provision in here, directly; or you must give authorization to the Legislature around which it can provide additional qualifications. The intent of this is to allow the Legislature, if it chooses to in future years, to place some sort of institutional sort of...some sort of geographic representation or other sorts of qualifications on members to serve on these particular boards. It is felt that a Wayne State College Board of Trustees would probably be served better if the Legislature would say some of those people, or maybe all of them, have to reside in northeast Nebraska; that the University of Nebraska at Lincoln Board of Trustees probably needs to have representation from throughout the State of Nebraska. We didn't want to mention the specific institutions in the Constitution because those institutions may change. As our state changes, we may need fewer institutions, may need more institutions of higher learning, so we didn't want to mention them. But this language is merely designed to authorize the Legislature to provide some