

appointed members shall be of the same political party." And that regards the Board of Regents. On page 6, line 12, starts on line 11, it says, "No more than three of the members initially appointed to each Board of Trustees shall be of the same political party." My amendment would say, "No more than three of the appointed members to each Board of Trustees shall be of the same political party." The impact of that would be that the five appointed members to the Board of Regents at no time, whether it is an initial appointment or 20 years from now, would have more than three people of the same political party; and for the Board of Trustees, that would be the same. I did try to send out for a book on some of the different appointees to try to tell you which boards and commissions now have this stipulation. I don't have that information right now but perhaps I will before this discussion is over. I ask for your consideration of this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion of the amendment offered by Senator Schimek. Senators Withem, Chambers, and Warner. Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, once again just to give you the rationale for why the bill is written the way it is, and then indicate that I think all the way through our discussions and our drafting of this particular provision, at least it was my feeling that the body probably would wish to make its own decision about political party affiliation of the membership of these boards. And so you can...this always sounds patronizing when somebody stands up and says you can vote any way you want to, as if there are other cases when you couldn't. Obviously, you can vote any way you want to and I am not going to seek to sway your opinion one way or the other, other than to give you the rationale of why the bill is drafted. The feeling was there is a concern about when there is a shift over from the current system that we have to governing boards, one elected and one appointive, over to one where there are seven boards of trustees providing governance in each institutional level, plus appointments on the Board of Regents that there will be lots of appointments being made by a Governor, and to deal with all of the appointments made at a single time, we felt it might be necessary to put the political party restriction in. In practice, I don't necessarily believe that it is bad having all people from one political party any more than it is bad having people of all one sex or bad having people of all one age category, or all people of one occupation,