

Senator Lamb has some guests under our north balcony from Springview, Nebraska, Christy Weidner, Christy Mizner, and Heidi Braun. Would you people please stand and be recognized. Apparently they just had to leave the Chamber. Senator Conway has a guest under our south balcony, Mr. Pat Engel from South Sioux City. Mr. Engel, please, would you stand and take a bow. Thank you, sir. We are glad to have you. Senator Chambers, further discussion on the Schimek amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, my preference would be that you limit the number of persons from the Governor's own political party that could be put on, but if you are not going to do that, then what Senator Warner talked about would probably be the next best thing, don't even raise the issue in the Constitution. If it's once raised and the Legislature indicates that at the beginning when this restructuring occurs it is so important to maintain this political party balance, then why did the Legislature not maintain it all the way through? Once the issue has been raised in the Constitution, we ought to carry it throughout the process that is affected by that particular aspect. So if the appointments down the line need not take into consideration the political party of those who are appointed, don't take that into consideration at this time. If we feel that there is no problem here, then put it completely in the hands of whoever the Governor may turn out to be. And if disaster results, let the disaster come at the very beginning, and then we are into the area of discussion that Senator Withem talked about initially, the horrendous decisions are made, the Governor places on these boards rubber stamps for the Governor. When the horrendous decisions are made and the institutions are harmed thereby, the Governor will come up for reelection and be defeated, some of the people appointed, removing this is not going to remove the damage that they did. But if it is felt that farther down the line it doesn't matter if everybody on the board belongs to one political party, why does it matter at the beginning? I was hoping that Senator Withem might reappear because I wanted to ask him a question. Well, I will ask Senator Warner.

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, please, would you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Warner, did I understand you correctly, and maybe I didn't because I was talking about some