

more of an obstructionist or whatever the case may be, the way the law is now, and correct me if I am wrong, it takes three-fourths, I think, of the members to remove a member; you want to make it simpler so a simple majority removes a member. And your rationale, I think, is because it keeps it consistent with how they are put on. Do you really think that putting somebody on is the same type of question as taking someone off after they've established their voting record? And I give Senator Maurstad some time to respond.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. A couple of comments. First of all, I want to make it clear that the removal or the approval is not by the planning commission, itself, but is by the governing board, either the village board or the city council, and that is only at the recommendation of the mayor or the chairperson of the village board. So it is a different body that would be looking at this situation than the actual planning commission. The whole premise behind LB 193 is...I was not able, and it is not...no one has been able to point out to me yet where any other appointed office for municipal government has the standard of a three-fourths majority for approval of the appointment or three-fourths supermajority for the removal, and that includes city attorneys, the police chiefs, city administrators, all other provisions. And the planning commission was the exception in needing that supermajority to remove or appoint. So the idea behind this, it is not that commission members aren't important but they are not so special, at least in my eyes, that they should be held to a different standard than all other city officials or village officials.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Maurstad, what about the, and if you didn't catch it, I appreciate that response. What about, for example, tourism boards that are out there? I think they are appointed as well by, well, I am not sure who actually appoints them. Again, I get back to the concept of whether or not other entities do it or not, is the tourism board, somebody want to be...if people wanted someone removed from that board, do you know whether or not who has that authority and whether it is a simple majority or a three-fourths majority?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: The situation is in all other, that I have been able, through research, been able to determine to this