

all-encompassing regulatory body with more people, but having different areas of gas regulation, electric. A variety of other regulatory options are out there. As we begin to look at consolidating and making more efficient, you want some flexibility. You shouldn't get rid of all regulation, that is not the purpose of this amendment, and you shouldn't vote to do that. But if you're interested in trying to gain some flexibility, and as changes come from Congress, this is your great opportunity to take some inflexibility out of that constitution. And quite frankly, I think there's a huge difference between a governance issue, where they create policy,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...and a regulatory body, such as the Public Service Commission, who merely carries out the regulatory schemes that we do set up. The Legislature is responsible for setting up the regulatory body. This...they, the Public Service Commission, in effect, are our agents, are carrying out our regulatory policies. And so what I would hope that we would look at, (1) is the flexibility; and (2) is that here's the opportunity to be prepared for the future, because there's going to come a time when we're going to want to have that flexibility to create a better regulatory scheme in the state, and we're going to look at this section of the constitution and say, why in the world is it there? You shouldn't get rid of the regulation, but you ought to get rid of the inflexibility to allow us to work with it in the future. In closing, Senator Janssen, I got to tell you I think it's true. There are some Public Service Commissioners who are extremely responsive, many of us know them, and they do a good job. But, quite frankly, their jurisdiction is so limited today that they're hamstrung and they have frustrations about what they can do. And the railroad crossings, for example,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...from the last eight years, I'm not aware of even one crossing that they've done anything about, other than hold public hearings. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Maurstad, to speak to the Chambers amendment.