

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So as we start going down this road, you don't see a need to establish a precedence or preferred way to go about so people, when they develop A bills, will know which direction we should be heading? Or should we just...is this one of those areas we ought to just leave open-ended for the time being?

SENATOR WESELY: I think we're going to have to feel our way along on this and some other things where we, you know, with the new entity see how it works. And I think things will shake out to where we like one way versus another. But at first I don't think we should deny ourselves any options.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: No, and I don't think we ought to deny ourselves any options either. I was trying to establish if you had a preference and if you wanted to provide any guidance relative to how this might start out. So, appreciate your responses, Senator.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Dierks. Won't be necessary, there are no further lights on Senator Chambers, to close on your amendment, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what this amendment does and the fact that it is so straightforward and clear in what it does is demonstrated by discussion on so many other issues, is to remove this word "distinguished". I agree with what Senator Witek said earlier about this whole little catalog, this whole little list should be stricken because it does not really achieve representation of all the interests that ought to be on this council. And since there is no inclination to use all inclusive language through designation, I am opposed to what is in the bill right now. This word "distinguished" is exclusionary, it smacks of elitism, and it would give a Governor an excuse not to make appointments which would not exist without it. If he chose to ignore somebody who has the credentials who may have been (inaudible) or advocated or recommended by members of his or her community, without this word the Governor would be hardpressed to say I'm going to reject that person. But with this word the Governor can say, well, the legislative debate showed that what was in mind was people with awards, titles, various other types of recognition, and this person does not have that. If the intent is not to be exclusionary in the language that is put into the