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LB 417

that...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. You may continue, Senator Schimek, as your light is next.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you very much. The other thing that I would like to point out is that almost all of these people who serve on these boards and commissions do have a code of professional ethics, and...which governs them and hopefully governs them in the cases of licensure, et cetera. It is very difficult, sometimes, to get people to be on these boards and commissions in the first place. I was just told by staff that, for instance, with the Board of Medicine and Surgery, which is one of those boards we're talking about here, those people have to come in on a Sunday morning and meet sometimes Sunday morning or sometimes all day Sunday, and these are busy people that we're asking to do this. In addition, we're asking them for financial reporting, which probably has little significance or meaning. I would just like to have you...I understand the concern, and I understand the reluctance to change anything in our sunshine laws, and I feel the same way, but let's look at this realistically and look at it from the perspective of here's an agency that has come in and said to us, they don't think these reports are getting read, they don't think these reports are necessary, and they have recommended that we do away with them. If we're not going to follow their recommendation, let's at least look a little bit closer at it and not adopt the Beutler amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized for discussion on the Beutler amendment on LB 417.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I...Mr. President, I've mixed emotions on this and the reason is I know it's probably quite a large burden, the ones that are involved in Senator Beutler's amendment. The ones that are taken out, it's probably a large volume of work for apparently a small interest. On the other hand, I recognize that many times members of these commissions are making decisions that should be totally out in the open and should be able to potentially reveal any of their conflict. And you don't always