

issue for us to go with an appointed board of regents. Now once I've decided that, then I'm prepared to let the voters speak on it, but that is the important point. The voters have the last word as to whether or not they want to disenfranchise themselves. They have the last word. I think that is the most significant word. The system is broke in terms of how we finance postsecondary education. It is broke in terms of structure. It needs to be fixed. That is what the commission on postsecondary education said. I concur with that point of view. I think you and I do act responsibly when we ultimately give to the voters LR 32.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Johnson. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I'm sure we all have much to say on this particular issue. I have much more to say than what I would like to say right now. But we are addressing a kill motion. I would like to oppose the kill motion and simply ask you to hear out the debate on this issue. In fact I think we should not only hear out the debate on this issue today, but that we should move it on to Select File and Final Reading for a number of reasons. First of all, I think it is the right idea. But, secondly, this state needs to think about this a little more. A little public education needs to go around the state. I think that by moving this bill along, and talking about it in the Legislature, you are going to start to get some feedback from your constituents. I think you may discover that they would like the opportunity to vote on it, that they would like the opportunity to think about it again themselves. So, for that reason, I hope you will hear the debate today and then move the bill along. Reinforcing that particular idea, I want to point out to you again, as I think Senator Hoagland did yesterday, that of the 70 major institutions in this country only 7 of them have an elected board of regents, only 7, only 10 percent of them. And the trend in the country has been to move more towards the appointed board. So, clearly, we are in a situation where the wisdom of people around the country has been that this is a better way to do it. Now that doesn't necessarily mean that that is the way we want to do it, but I think that that should indicate to you that this is a subject worth talking about, that this is probably a subject worth putting to the people again. I hope at the very least you would not vote for a motion to kill it without even hearing out the debate.