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LB 417

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the fact that I have questions, I am not going to support the advancement of this bill, but I do have a question I want to put to you about two other individuals, at least, who might should have to do this reporting, but I will do that the next time I get to speak.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Okay.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Kristensen would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature; 13 students who are seniors at the Wilcox High School (introduces teacher). They are in the north balcony. If you'd rise, we'd like to welcome you and recognize you at the Nebraska Legislature. Senator Beutler, for discussion on the advancement of LB 417.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, Senator Janssen, I certainly understand that part of the bill that has to do with making an exception for the student members of the Board of Regents. As I recall, they don't even vote, they don't have a vote anyway, do they? And so, that part seems to me to make...to make a lot of sense. But with regard to doing away with the financial statements on so many of these boards, for the reason that Senator Chambers indicated, I don't feel comfortable doing that and especially in light of the fact that our financial interest statement, as it has been recently criticized, I think you know, is a very simple form. It doesn't get into a great amount of detail, but it seems to me that it probably is helpful on occasion to know the background, at least a little of the back ground of some of these...of some of these board members, and I suppose it's generally true that, by and large, people aren't going to be looking at these things until there is some kind of perceived problem, but I am not sure that the fact that they are not looked at but rarely is enough of an indication that we should do away with it completely. So just to get the sense of the body, I am going to file an amendment restoring the stricken language on pages 2 and 3, but leaving in the provision relating to the student members and test whether the body wants to go as far as this bill goes. I'd like to be in a position to vote for it, but i don't feel comfortable where it sits presently. So you're certainly welcome to the rest of