

March 28, 1973

floor of the Legislature for further consideration and then it will be considered at least three times if it survives to Final Reading. I wouldn't have any idea whether it would survive or not and I would not know whether, when and if it comes to the floor on General File, that I would vote for it. However, I would like to point out a couple of things in regard to this. I was quite impressed with the speech Senator Lewis made and Senator Syas and they definitely make a point. Senator Lewis said that why shouldn't a student have to run for public office just like anybody else. Well, I can give you a reason. In any statewide office or regional office, it takes a lot of money to get elected, generally speaking. Now in Senator Fowler's case, I believe he had many constituents that were students and so he had a better chance in that regard because he was a student and undoubtedly, I don't know and I don't care, but I don't imagine he had to spend a lot of money but that's a unique situation because the campus or most of it is part of his legislative district. But let's take somebody that wants to run, a student that wants to run for Governor or the Board of Regents. This takes dough, my friends, and quite a bit of it and anybody who has been in politics knows that and it's a matter of getting out advertisements and huge signs. Ordinarily a student would not have this kind of money. So it's really a fallacy to say that this is really open to students being elected now. Yes, technically it is but in the harsh realities of life, it is not. Now, I certainly do not agree with some of the things that are going on at the University. I certainly do not agree with the philosophies, the far left philosophies, if you please, of some of the professors. But it's a free country except that they are there teaching the children and I question whether they are teaching, all of them are teaching the subjects they should be teaching. I think that a number of them are trying to inject and do successfully inject their own personal whitical philosophies in their teaching courses. Certainly some of the students themselves are to be and should be reprimanded for some of their conduct. But, of course, this is always true in a free society. Now I think we all have to admit that on all campuses throughout the United States there is some student unrest, and there always will be, and there always has been. So what would happen if we actually did put one student on the Board of Regents? I realize this authorizes three, but you must understand too that if this bill comes to the floor we can amend it in any manner we, 25 of us desire. What would happen if we did put a student on the Board of Regents? Well, that is precisely one vote; it's no more and it's no less and it might show to these students that we are willing to be reasonable. It is true what Senator Marsh said according to the committee report that nobody appeared in opposition to this bill. Now that doesn't necessarily prove anything, but it may show that those who are against this bill and strongly against it, didn't want to appear at the public hearing for some reason. Now I don't know how this looks to the students, but I don't think it looks very good and Senator Stahmer did make a good point when he said, students are to one extent or another paying tuition which in turn supports the University. On the other hand, an employee of an employer doesn't pay into the fund. This is a different proposition so my point is only this, that we should put this up on the board and take a look at it and maybe even by doing that we will show to these students that we're trying to be fair about the proposition. It doesn't scare me that there might be one member of the Board of Regents who is a student. Why should you be scared? Now if the majority were students, I'd be petrified. I wouldn't stand