

the oil out in western Nebraska. Someone much higher than I had that prerogative of doing that. But that is where the oil is. It's like the University of Nebraska is here, it isn't out in the western Nebraska. You know, I had nothing to do with that either, and it's fine, they can have it here. But the thing that I'm saying is that that is where the oil is now, and that's where the hearings are, and for goodness sakes, don't think it's my domain, I have nothing to do with oil out there.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there any further discussion? Senator Cullan, do you wish to speak to the Merz amendment?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise in support of Senator Merz and his attempt to achieve some representation across the state of Nebraska, and there are represen...I know that all three of the existing members are in western Nebraska, but I have to, in good conscience, support Senator Merz. I have a bill on the Political Accountability and Sunshine Commission trying to attempt to see that there is some uniform representation from all areas of the state. I think right now there are six members...lay members on the Commission, all of them from Lincoln and Omaha, the two elected members on that Commission are also from Lincoln, and so I see some problems with that, and I feel that that Commission...that we are a little unfairly represented in the western part of the state on that Commission. Well, perhaps here we have a situation in reverse and I think Senator Merz is attempting to correct it, and I think he's fair and equitable, and I think Omaha and Lincoln, and the other parts of the state have a right to be represented just as well as western Nebraska. So, I'm not... I don't think it's...I don't want to be parochial and I think that Senator Merz has a good idea, and I support his amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: I'm going to take Senator Cullan up on the offer he just made. We'll give western Nebraska the Political Accountability Committee and we'll take the Oil and Gas Committee in the east. It's okay with me.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There are no other lights on, Senator Merz. Senator Clark, do you want to make a comment before Senator Merz closes?

SENATOR CLARK: I have nothing against eastern Nebraska having one on that Commission. I don't know why they would want it,