

eight regents, either six, seven or eight and, of course, two of those chances are even numbers, either six or eight, where there would, in fact, be tie votes and since we were rewriting this legislation we thought that we could...it would be a valuable change to avoid these tie votes whenever possible. Therefore, with approval of the Legislature at some point in the future, should this be placed on the ballot and passed, there would either be seven or nine members, not eight, it would be seven or nine. This would mandate the possibility of avoiding some of the tie votes. So those are basically the two committee amendments, one on the redistricting and the problem with districting Douglas County, the other that there be either seven or nine regents, not six to eight as it presently reads. I urge your adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, how are they going to decide on whether there is going to be seven or nine members?

SENATOR RUPP: Yes, it's up to the jurisdiction of the Legislature as it is right now. Existing statutes read that there be seven to eight members, so some point back in the history the Legislature has decided there would be eight. We made that decision in this body at one time because existing language says six to eight. The new language would just simply say seven or nine. It would take legislative authority and an introduction of a bill.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you very much. That's all, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Did you wish to close, Senator Rupp?

SENATOR RUPP: No, not unless there are further questions.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted.