

University of Colorado, Illinois, Wayne State at Michigan, the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Nevada. Several of those states are considering a proposal just like ours. Mr. Speaker, could I have a hammer, please, I can't hardly hear myself back here.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) Could you please hold your conversation down so that we can hear the speakers. Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: We have to remember the Board of Trustees of the state colleges is appointed. It's hard to make a rational argument, I think, that this wouldn't work when we know that the state college system is working with appointed trustees. This has been the recommendation of several commissions, in 1968, Governor Tiemann's so-called Little Hoover Commission, 1980, Governor Thone's Task Force; 1980 National Commission on College and University Trustees election, '84, Citizen's Commission for Study of Higher Education. Several key points, and these will be discussed in detail later, but there is an election process still involved twice. First of all, the voters would have to approve this in November. They are not giving away a right because they have that ultimate right in November to decide if they want this proposal or not. There is legislative confirmation of this. They also have the gubernatorial election process in which this could possibly be a factor on how well or how poorly the Governors would appoint regents. You see down at the bottom of the sheet that long ballot elections tend to discourage the public. Data shows that one-sixth of those voting drop off before getting the candidates for regent. Now all of you are aware and astute in the business of politics and I think you know that if you stop 50 people on the main street of your home town and ask them who their regent was, you'd be lucky to find one that could name him or her for you. Three of the other four states that do still elect regents are in the process of reviewing the elected membership. Those are Michigan, Colorado and Nevada as I mentioned, and in Michigan where there are three universities that still elect, a task force has been appointed that would do, in fact, what we're proposing to do with this, have gubernatorial appointment of all governing boards. I want to read with you a little bit from a couple of those reports. D(1), the so-called Little Hoover Commission says this: "The Constitution provides for the election of regents. The scope of the university has