

the decisions very often ignore the advisory committee.

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, in this case, Senator Higgins, the advisory committee do not...it is probably a misnomer as far as program review is concerned because they, under the committee amendments, make the recommendation, period. It is not an advisory to the director. They make the recommendation to the citizens and lay people. As far as the Planning Council is concerned, it is simply a mechanism, as I said earlier, so that communication can take place among all of higher education. The director then, as I view it, would bring the recommendations as to this is the direction that I think higher education ought to be going, we had ought to put monies in this or take monies away from that, or whatever, bring it to the Legislature, the Appropriations Committee, Education Committee, whoever, and speak basically representing the Governor as other directors of institutions...of agencies do.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So...

SENATOR VICKERS: So we would have...in the end we are the ones that make those decisions but we would have at least somebody telling us from a broad perspective what perhaps those decisions should be, which we don't have right now.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So if your amendments were adopted and the bill is adopted, you are saying that the final solution is somebody is going to have some oversight.

SENATOR VICKERS: That is correct.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, did you wish to speak to the amendment? Okay, the question is the adoption of the Vickers amendment to the committee amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 13 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of Senator Vickers' amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The Vickers amendment is adopted. Now back to the committee amendments. But may I first introduce some guests in the north balcony. Senator Barrett has 22 seniors