

and I suggest that then we come back and take another look at it. Again I want to say this, if you think this system has worked in the past, vote for the DeCamp amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: If you think it hasn't, then vote against it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Did anyone else wish to talk on the DeCamp amendment? If not, Senator DeCamp, would you like to close on your amendment to the committee amendments?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes, I would. Mr. President and members, I have been told that my amendment supposedly guts the bill. I have been told that by very good friends in the business community and some senators on the floor. If the amendment is that significant where simply allowing the Governor, an elected official, to control the appointment, if it is that significant, there is the proof of the pudding. There is the proof. In other words, is economic development as a government and political matter for the future, for the next 10, 15 years, whatever, is it going to be subject to somebody who is held accountable or is it going to be turned over to a private club, and they may be the best, most well-intentioned club in the world but they will be dealing with taxpayer funds and they will not be accountable, and so such decisions as to whether there should be a north-south interstate, such decisions as to whether alcohol-gasohol, whatever, plants should be built or should not be built won't be held up to the political light. They will be decided as we, including me, decide many issues, in a club, in a board room, and I don't say that is all bad on a lot of issues, but the ultimate barriers, the ultimate walls is what we are talking about here, who will control the issue of economic development of this state in the future. Will it be a private club or will it be a political system? And since taxpayer money is involved, it ultimately, it ultimately should be an accountable public official. I think it is fair to say, and I doubt anyone would disagree with this, for the next 10 or 15 years economic development is going to be the heart of what we do in this state one way or another, whether it succeeds or fails, and for that reason, for that reason for sure, that power should be left with the Governor and, no, I haven't talked to the Governor one word about this, I had no idea he had a position one way