

January 9, 1992      LB 398

PRESIDENT MOUL:      Thank you, Senator Schellpeper.      Mr. Clerk, amendments on the desk.

CLERK:      Madam President, Senator Wehrbein would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL:      Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes, Madam President, members. This is on page 1074 of the Journals...the amendment that I have. And I'll read it so you know what it's about. The vote of a member of a county agricultural society or county fair board for any election held within such society or board, shall be cast by the member personally, and shall not be cast by proxy vote. So what this simply does is prohibit proxy voting on agricultural...county agricultural society business. I put this in in response...when about a year ago we discovered, or it was stated in the paper, that the Douglas County Board was using proxies. That, to my knowledge, was the only one that was. Since that time, I don't know that any...that evidently has ceased, but I felt it appropriate that we do not have the need for a...for proxy voting in county agricultural societies. This doesn't seem to me that we'd need to be that sophisticated in this type of an operation. People ought to be interested in the fair. It ought not to be a burden to be there to...for their conducting their business and probably more importantly, I don't...I just don't see the need, if there's not going to be a quorum, if there's something that that's business, to simply go out and collect proxies to get something done doesn't seem to be a responsive way...or a responsible way to do. So I urge the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL:      Thank you, Senator Wehrbein.      Now recognize senators wishing to speak to this amendment.      Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN:      Madam President and members of the Legislature, I would rise to support Senator Wehrbein's amendment. At the same time, I want to talk about the bill and how his amendment fits into it. There are really two different entities that we're talking about today. One of them is a county fair board...county fair board. And I think there's only five or six of those in the State of Nebraska. That's created by the county board themselves. Those members are elected.