

LB 307.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, members, LB 307 is a bill that was introduced by myself along with Senator Withem. It deals with the elimination of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee, in terms of the Legislature. It deals with the elimination of the Governor's Committee on Intergovernmental Cooperation. It eliminates the Nebraska Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation and it deals with Sections 81-816 through 81-823, excuse me, 82...yes, 823. The sections are being printed up right now and being delivered out to you. I apologize, I was caught unaware that we were going to, in effect, pass over LB 90, so that is being done right now and they should be here shortly so you can take a look at them. But until they get here we can speak to the issue. The bill was heard by the Exec Board and there was...Senator Withem did the introduction. I was chairing the meeting and he spoke to the issue. We had no other proponent or opponent testimony on the issue. It was advanced out of committee unanimously by the all nine voting members of the Executive Board. The proposal comes from much discussion that the previous Executive Board had the last two years over the issue of the travel committee, as we commonly call it, and what responsibilities lie there, where they should properly lie in terms of the Legislative Council. We also talked about other areas. As you well know, we made some changes over the interim in terms of where the legislative computer systems would function. They were moved under the Executive Board. The purpose behind LB 307 would be to remove Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee, strike that, strike the Governor's committee and the Nebraska Commission on those, which do not function in any capacity, and have that travel function fall to the Executive Board. As you well know, the other aspect of Intergovernmental Cooperation is that appointment capacity that is bifurcated right now as we know it. Part of it falls to the Speaker, part of it falls to Intergovernmental and a lot of times there is confusion with regard to that. There is a couple instances, and I'm sure that Senator Withem may speak to that, how there was discrepancy or misunderstanding if nothing else based on who was allowed to make the appointments and what had been done historically and how those conflicted over the past few years. In this day and age of reducing government, this is one measure where without attacking any individuals, which I know, Senator Maurstad, is unusual for me, but without attacking any individual's performance in this area, we looked at the elimination of this committee into the future. It would not