

March 23, 1973

File to E & R Initial? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Clerk will record.

CLERK:

PRESIDENT: Now, Senator Syas, let's revert back to your 331 and we were up to the Waldron amendment, no, we didn't adopt the Waldron amendment. I don't think we even heard it. Did we have some committee amendments on that?

SENATOR SYAS: Yes, the committee amendments didn't we adopt?

PRESIDENT: They were adopted, yes.

SENATOR SYAS: All right, now here's what I wish to say about the Waldron amendment. He told me the other day when I asked him about it, he was, he would not offer it. Now unless he changed his mind he didn't intend to offer it. If he does change his mind I want it perfectly clear I feel that he can put it on Select File. If he can get 25 votes in here for a dove bill, out of this thing, that will kill the bill anyhow. If he was here today he couldn't get 25 votes to put the amendment on anyhow because there are only 26 of us here. I doubt if on any day he could get 25 votes but anyhow, that's what he told me.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas, I think we have 36 here now.

SENATOR SYAS: All right, I just wanted to explain so I'm not trying to push...

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, 41 to be exact.

SENATOR SYAS: Pardon?

PRESIDENT: 41 members here now, to be exact. 41. That might help to know that.

SENATOR SYAS: Yes, well, that's my statement and if anyone takes exception to it, they can say so now. The only reason I, the Game Commission has been worried about this bill because the season's coming up and there's a big misunderstanding about the crow and I think it's about time that in this bill we get it settled so that people know, especially you people in rural Nebraska, know what it's all about. That's why I'd like to get the bill started and then you do what you want to on it later. But I'll explain the bill. The first part of the bill is, it makes turtles, salamanders and mussels game animals. Right now they are unregulated. This will allow the Game Commission to regulate turtles, salamanders and mussels and of course you all know what a turtle is, of course, I've been called one. Anyhow, people, now they are unregulated and I understand that people are...both... I've been called that and other things too.

PRESIDENT: Hold down the dialogue on the floor. We can't transcribe that.

SENATOR SYAS: All right, anyhow, turtles, people I understand have been coming in since Nebraska's open from other states, harvesting our turtles and taking them to process the meat to other states. Salamanders are being used for bait, bait, and at present some of you call them water puppies, I think it is. You've seen them from time to time. This provision would allow the Game Commission to require a vendor, for instance, of bait to also have to have a permit for selling salamanders along with his minnows, crawdads, fish--angle worms, etc. Mussels, it's not the one that Ernie has in his arm. It's a shell, we call them snails. That's a mussel.