

March 11, 1991 LB 340

confirmation of these two gentlemen, first, as the Department of Insurance Director and then as the Department of Banking and Finance Director. The confirmation is William McCartney and James Hansen. I move its adoption.

SPEAKER BAACK: Is there any discussion of the confirmation report? Seeing none, Senator Landis, do you wish to close? All those...we will now proceed to vote. All those in favor of the confirmation report vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the confirmation report.

SPEAKER BAACK: The confirmation report is adopted. Before we proceed with the agenda, I would like to introduce some guests. First of all, a guest of Senator Beyer is our doctor for the day, that's Kathy Bliese and she is from Waterloo and she is under the north balcony. Would you please welcome her to the Legislature. And also some guests of Senator Landis in the south balcony. We have the Clinton Elementary Student Council. There are 16 children and two adults and their leader. Would you please welcome them to the Legislature. Thanks for being with us. We will now proceed to General File and LB 340.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 340, introduced by the Natural Resources Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 16, referred to Natural Resources, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you. We will go to the Chair of the Natural Resources Committee, Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, LB 340 is a bill that was brought to the Natural Resources Committee by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. It raises the fee for the habitat stamp from \$7.50 to \$10.00. The habitat program began basically as a concern started to rise among the commission over declining habitat in Nebraska in the late sixties and early seventies. A habitat conference was called then by the commission in late 1974 and at that conference they decided to look at ways in which they could provide a program which would help offset some of these declining concerns or populations of habitat in Nebraska. At that time, in, I