

want to wait for that?

SENATOR RUPP: I can wait on the amendment, I believe.

CLERK: Okay.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Rupp, would you care to explain LB 379.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, this bill could be accurately described as a fine-tuning bill of a bill that we passed last year. Last year we passed a bill that was brought to us by Animal Control people, largely saying that they had no authority to remove certain pets, animals that were dangerous that people were keeping in captivity, primarily large cats and bears. I think we had an example out here at Raymond where some people had a pet cougar that severely mauled a child, and so forth, so we passed that bill last year. Inadvertently and unintentionally, we put out of business a few people that were in the business of raising lynx and bobcat commercially for fur. We, of course, did not intend to do that and this bill simply would right that wrong. I think it deals with relatively few people. I think they are all located in either Senator Hefner, Senator Haberman or Senator Dierks' district and that is why these three gentlemen are co-signers on this bill with me. But the bill simply puts back into the statute the ability of the Game and Parks Commission to issue a commercial fur grower's permit to individuals for these two specific animals, lynx and bobcat, which are raised commercially for their pelts. I guess we do have an amendment. Mr. Clerk, what page in the Journal is this amendment on?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Rupp's amendment is on page 520 of the Journal.

SENATOR RUPP: The amendment does just simply specifically put into the statute the two animals, their scientific names, lynx rufus and lynx canadensis. We had... probably should have handled this or we could have in committee amendments but there was some difference of opinion as to whether it was needed or not. Just to clarify and make sure that we are dealing only with these two animals, we did specifically name them in this amendment rather than fall back on the general definition of furbearer. So I would urge your adoption of the amendment, unless there are questions.