

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

January 27, 2003 LB 306

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Stuhr to open on LB 306.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I'm here today to introduce LB 306, which allows an increase in the current statutory cap on a variety of permits and fees that are administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. The current permits and fees have reached the statutory limits that were established ten years ago, in 1993, under LB 235. I want to emphasize that the passage of this bill does not mean that permits and fees will necessarily increase, but simply allows the commission to raise the fees within the cap. And I might also add that many other states do not have caps in regards to these permits and fees. But we have...we do have in Nebraska. Before any permit or fee increase could occur, there must be a public hearing where citizens have the opportunity to review and comment on any of the proposed changes. I also might add that there's a limited six percent increase per year, found in statute 37-327. Increasing the cost of permits and fees are done to keep pace with inflation and additional costs associated with providing services in these areas. I might also add that the Sportsmens Clubs throughout Nebraska did support and testify in support of this bill, which was held last week. And in summary, LB 306 allows the Game and Parks Commission the authority to increase permits and fees, within the cap, if they should find it necessary. I thank you for the opportunity to share this with you. And I'd cert inly be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Mr. Clerk, do you have an amendment?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Senator Stuhr would move to amend with AM0058. (Legislative Journal page 306.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Stuhr, do you wish to open on AM0058?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. This amendment is what you would say, rather of a cleanup amendment. There were some numbers that were