

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

January 28, 2003 LB 306

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I don't know how many of you have been to Minnesota over the last, oh, say, ten years. My wife and I go up there. We used to go up every year to a favorite little resort of ours. And we would always buy a fishing license. We didn't fish much, you know, but just in case we needed to, and get stopped by a game warden, why, we would have a fishing license. I tell you what, you could buy a pretty good bunch of groceries for what one of those fishing licenses cost in Minnesota. They are very expensive for out of state. And their sales tax rate is very high also. And that's understandable, because the state of Minnesota has a lot of tourism, and they live quite well off the tourism in that state. And they also have quite a few fish, so...in those lakes. Why, we...when we go there, we always buy a fishing license, which is very high. So they're capturing something there that this state probably doesn't have abundance of. Our resorts, and so on. I looked at what's happened to Lake McConaughy. You know, there are hardly any...I guess the road is about ready to come out the middle of that lake. So you see, we are...that's something we can't control. But some of the other areas in the state, such as the area that I represent, have an abundance of sand pits. That's what the Fremont State Lakes are. They're from people pumping out gravel out of there for the road. It's quite a nice park. I'm very proud of it. The permit to get into that park, I think, is reasonable. You can...I've seen station wagons and even busses come in, and...with a bunch of people in it, and they get in. Now, if you were in Minnesota and had to buy a fishing license for all those people that come in on that bus, why, that would be a different story. I think Nebraska's permits to hunt and fish are reasonable. I don't know whether Senator Stuhr would mind taking out the six percent maximum that could be imposed, and putting it zero, and if they wanted to raise them, come back in here and ask us for a raise in those licenses. The state of Wisconsin also is a...quite a prominent place to go fishing. But what's happened in Wisconsin over the last couple of years, there are some areas in Wisconsin, the deer and elk population...I don't know if there's any elk there, but we'll just say deer...they're as high as 600 per square mile