

what we are doing is penalizing some people by raising this fee that deal with a relatively small value product. That is the major concern that I have at this point in time with LB 72. I just want to alert the members of the body and the members of the committee that I serve with that on Select File I undoubtedly will be offering an amendment to LB 72 but at the present time I will vote for its advancement. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just have to rise in opposition to LB 72. I think we are reaching and I hope the Legislature stops and takes a careful look here at what we are doing. There are several bills in here that are increasing the cost of hunting and fishing and another bill to increase the price of the park entry fee and I think we are starting to price people out of these recreational activities. I don't hunt and I don't fish and I very rarely go to a state park but I think that these facilities are supposed to be made available to the public and I am a little concerned that we are starting to price people out of these recreational activities and I certainly cannot support LB 72. And I would urge you to take a careful look at it and to oppose the bill. I think it is unfortunate that we continue to increase the costs of this type of recreation and I guess I just oppose the bill and I hope you do too.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, a question of Senator Labeledz. Senator Labeledz, what is the reason for protecting the raccoons? They are very prolific and they do a lot of damage to farm buildings. I can't see why we should protect those from...and Senator Kahle says they harvest sweet corn before you get to it and I think this would be bad to allow them to just multiply and cause problems for the farmers. Would you object if we took the raccoon out of the bill?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Well we are not doing anything. We are just putting the raccoons and the opossums under the fur harvesting permit rather than under both the hunting and the fur harvesting because the Games and Parks can keep better track of them. We are not doing away with them or anything. We are putting them under the fur harvesting permit rather than in two places. Before, you could hunt them and they would also be under fur harvesting as a fur bearing animal.