

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise for the support of this appointment. Like Senator Withem says, I spoke to the Education Committee about this appointment. Dee Carlson is a constituent of mine. I have known her for a long time. She is very active in many things, many community projects, and I just believe that she would be a very good person to serve on this board. So I would highly recommend her.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion? Senator Withem, any closing?

SENATOR WITHEM: Well, I guess if we're going to talk this to death, I don't know how I feel on it anymore. But, no, I would...in closing, I would urge a favorable consideration of the Governor's appointment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the confirmation report as offered by Senator Withem. Those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the report, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The confirmation report is adopted. To General File, Mr. Clerk, senator priority bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, the legislation scheduled for this morning is LB 49. LB 49 was introduced by Senator Dierks. (Read title.) The bill was introduced, Mr. President, on January 5 of this year. At that time it was referred to the Agriculture Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Agriculture Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Agriculture Committee Chairman, Senator Johnson, for the committee amendments.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members, to refresh the body's memory, this Legislature, during the budget cutting times in the mid-eighties, made a decision to reduce the role, in fact, eliminate the role of the Department of Agriculture in the enforcement of the noxious weed program that was being carried