ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 75 was introduced by Senator Hartnett. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 10. It was referred to the Banking Committee. They report the bill to General File with no committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hartnett, on the bill.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I do appreciate the speaker allowing passing over the bill and then coming back at this time. The bill does a couple of things. The first it does, as it said in the...the Clerk said it. It does create a standing committee of educational matters, the grant, to look at the training that CPAs get. It also requires after January, the 1st, 1998, the requirements that the CPA should be a resident of the state, must have passed a written exam in accounting, auditing, and other subjects, and the candidate making initial application to take the exam has completed 150 semester hours or 225 quarter hours of postsecondary credit, and have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher. What is happening with this, I think this, we are moving into kind of a profession. I think the educational hours that is proposed in this thing is good. What it does, it allows the people in the stream, that are any place in college, to be grandfathered in with this thing. And I think our tax system has become much more complicated over the years, and so then also our practicing CPAs must continue to take educational training beyond after...if they are practicing one right now, they have to take 121 hours over three years. And I guess...the reason I was late this morning, I am still in therapy with my wrist, and the person I go to has five years training, and I think our tax system may be as important as my wrist. So I think that this is a necessary addition to the training for a very important area. So with that, I would answer any questions, or I would just ask for the bill to be advanced.

SPEAKER BAACK: Is there any discussion on LB 75? Seeing none, Senator Hartnett, do you wish to close?

SENATOR HARTNETT: No.

SPEAKER BAACK: He waives closing. We will now proceed to voting on the advancement of LB 75. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.