

used to be that when a vendor decided to sell permit books they were bonded. They were bonded for the amount of the permit books. Then if something happened to the money, the Game and Parks Commission could come back to the bonding firm and collect the money. Well, several years ago they changed the bonding process. They changed it. Now they have to have and lose \$10,000 before they can collect a dime. They have to lose \$10,000 before they collect a dime. Now the vendor is supposed to remit on a monthly basis but it's strictly on the honor system. One firm took off with \$18,000 and the bonding agency has not yet paid because it's in the court and the case has been going on for several years. As I say, I'm not fussing with the bill, I'm saying we should hold this bill until we get some assurances that this problem is cleared up. And, as we go through the session or on this bill, I will bring you some other problems that we have with the Game and Parks and I'm going to keep feeding you the information, feeding you the facts, I can substantiate the facts, until this body chooses to do something about it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Haberman. We will now go to Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler waives off. We will go to Senator Lamb. I don't see Senator Lamb here. Senator Rod Johnson, do you wish to close?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, I would. A couple of points to answer Senator Wehrbein's question, first of all. We have approximately 22,897 acres in the Wildlife Land Acquisition Program. I have a copy, in fact, of the breakdown of where those acres are located across the State of Nebraska. So if anyone would like to see where those lands have been acquired, we certainly have documentation of that. The issue of uncollected revenue by the Game and Parks Commission on this program is an area, I think, of genuine concern to Senator Haberman and, unfortunately, in many cases, the situation has been because of bankruptcy of businesses that were collecting the tax. You sometimes can't get blood out of a stone and, quite frankly, the Game and Parks Commission has been pursuing it through the State Claims Board to try and deal with that problem. But many of these problems being brought up today were basically done in previous years and I think, as this bill proceeds, I think the Game and Parks Commission is aware of the fact that we're concerned by the lack of collection here and they need to improve the program from that particular standpoint and I think they're willing to do that. As I said, this is the