

March 14, 1991

LB 284, 303

little as 5 to 10 thousand dollars, to as much as approximately 50 thousand dollars in some cases. So it is a program that is used. What we do in LB 284 is make it that much more accessible to smaller communities who would like to have the opportunity. I would urge its advancement to E & R initial.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Is there any senator who wishes to debate this bill? Seeing none, we will proceed to vote on the advancement of LB 284. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 284 is advanced. LB 303.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 303 was introduced by Senator Warner. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 16, reported to Judiciary Committee, which advanced the bill to General File.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I'm handling this for Senator Warner this morning, who is out of town. I did hear this bill in the Judiciary Committee, and am familiar with it. LB 303 is a fairly simple measure that is proposing some guidelines for county judges to award appraisers fees in condemnation proceedings. Condemnation proceedings, as you remember, is that proceeding exercised by political subdivisions in the State of Nebraska to acquire property for various public purpose reasons, electrical lines, landfills, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. And it's a system where you have three free-holders, appointed by a county judge, who go out, physically view the property. Generally, it's a real estate agent, an interested person in the community, and in many communities they also may send legal counsel, whatever, as one of the three free-holders. They physically view the property, come back with a determination of what they think the value of that property that is proposed to be taken is. They are compensated for their fees. This fee currently, in statute, has no guidelines, no limitations on it, and varies from county to county, it varies from county judge to county judge. And so what they did was they came in with a recommendation, and