

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President and members, the Natural Resources Committee would like to report favorably on four appointments, Glen Kroese, Wilbur Nelson, and Michael Shaughnessy, all to the Natural Resources Commission, and a reappointment by the Game and Parks Commission of Mr. Charles Wright. The committee voted unanimously to approve all four appointments and we present these for your approval this morning.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Is there anyone who wishes to speak to the confirmation report? Seeing none, all those in favor of adopting the confirmation report please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the confirmation report? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of the confirmation report as offered by the Natural Resources Committee.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The report is adopted. Proceed with General File, LB 256.

CLERK: Madam President, 256 was a bill introduced by Senators Schimek, Schellpeper, Labedz, Crosby, Rasmussen, and Robak. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 14, referred to the Health Committee for public hearing, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee. (See AM1207 on page 1655 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President and members. LB 256 is an important piece of legislation and it has a great deal of interest across the State of Nebraska. It deals with an important topic, that being the threat of cancer to many of our middle-aged and older women in this state and the desire to have more preventive action taken through mammography to prevent that cancer. We have found...we have had previous legislation in this body looking at mandated benefits to cover mammography screening. We have had a mandated program previously introduced last year to set up a state system to provide for mammography screening, and we are back with LB 256, which is similar to the bill introduced last year. The committee amendments dramatically change the legislation in a number of ways, and I