

Metro area we find caught in traps are domestic companion animals, such as dogs and cats. In addition, other nongame animals get trapped. They currently have a bald eagle at the Raptor Recovery Center here in Lincoln who was caught in a trap. The trap, itself, did not fully injure the animal because it was only caught by one of its toes, but enough to hold it. However, the trap was not looked at in more than 24-hours, and they determined this because gangrene had already set into the animal, into the fowl's leg. So right now, that bald eagle is not going to be able to be released back into the wild. And other raptors have been caught in these traps. Particularly in Omaha, I don't know if Lincoln has an ordinance, or other cities have these ordinances, but there is a serious problem in these areas with children also playing along creek banks and also with people now going more and more into these areas. So I think the amendment that I have proposed will take care of the problem. Again it states, but shall not include releasing a nonfurbearing animal, and Game and Parks has their definition of furbearing animals. It should cover all the animals that would legally be able to trap, be trapped, but would not include those domesticated animals or raptors or other species that are protected, and the various people who have authority to deal with those animals would be allowed to take those from the traps and, hopefully, be able to do whatever kinds of veterinary medicine that would be required to deal with them. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions if anyone has any. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Legislature, I really have no problem at all with this amendment. I think it just clearly states what's implied by the law in other sections of the game law and trapping, and does, I am sure, enforce that people can release animals that are not intended nor listed as those that are legal to be trapped. And I commend Senator Preister for looking at it in this way, and would gladly accept this amendment to LB 274 and would encourage you to vote for this amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I