

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer. Members of the Legislature, first, for the benefit of Senator Landis, I believe that Senator Beutler's lunch hour would be more luxurious if his bill was at Select File. Let me explain the committee amendments. LB 303, the committee amendments to LB 303 are a combination of portions of LB 303 and LB 603 which were heard the same day. LB 603 was Senator Hartnett's bill. Both bills attempted...both bills actually amended the same section. Both attempted to correct a problem with vacancies on judicial nominating commissions. The committee put together, I guess, the best provisions from those two bills into the committee amendments which do become the bill. What it provides is that the Governor would appoint additional citizen members, alternate citizen members to the judicial nominating commissions by October 15, '95, and would provide that when vacancies occur there would either be a replacement by the Governor or by the Bar Association, depending on which one needs to make that replacement, with the goal being that there be a full complement of commission members when a hearing on replacement of a judge occurs. Finally, it does require that there be eight qualified members present and capable of voting on each candidate and that they have five votes to submit his or her name to the Governor. Operative date is retained. That's the January 1 of '97 when it all becomes effective. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions and would urge the adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Lindsay, there are no lights on, would you like to close on the committee amendments? He waives closing. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. Those in favor vote aye. Those opposed vote no. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to adcpt the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Schimek, on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you. Mr. President and members of the body, LB 303, for the most part, was a bill that was introduced last year that passed this body as part of a sort of an omnibus bill and was vetoed and so I have come back with it this year. There are two main provisions of it. The first