

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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Department of Veterans Affairs, Keith Fickenscher; the Director of the Governor's Policy Research Office, Lauren Hill; and the Department of Administrative Services, Lori McClurg. All three were heard by the Government Committee, and I'll just tell you just a little bit about each one. Keith Fickenscher has been the Director of the Department of Veterans Services since August of 1996. Lauren Hill was just appointed as the Director of Policy Research Office. She has, in her other life, been an Assistant Attorney General and has worked for a Congressman and has clerked in both Lincoln and Omaha. And Lori McClurg served as Governor Johanns' aide in the Lincoln Mayor's Office for the past three and a half years, and she has assisted him with a whole myriad of duties. So I would be happy to answer questions that you might have, if I can, in more detail, but for that...for now I would simply recommend that you approve these three appointees.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Before we proceed, Senator Kremer would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature; 33 high school students seated in the north balcony from Sandy Creek High School, (introduces teacher). If you'd rise, we'd like to recognize you and welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. For discussion on the Government Committee confirmation report, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, at this time, I would rise to request that the thorn be severed from the two roses, in other words, divide this issue so that the first name is taken separately from the last two names, which can be taken together as far as the division that I would seek.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The question is divisible. Senator Schimek, which section of the divided question would you like to take up first?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Again, let's take the first part first...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...which would be Keith Fickenscher.