

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 15, 1999

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. We had four individuals who were able to appear before us. One individual, the first one, Ann Pickel, was unavailable but had traveled to Lincoln earlier, had met with her, gone over her application, and the recommendation of the committee is to approve all of the nominations. I will give you a little information. Ann Pickel is from Omaha. She currently serves on the NPTV Board, so certainly has a background in this area. The next is Randall Bretz from...well, actually, he had a representative there. He is from Lincoln. He has, professionally, a great deal of background in the area of telecommunications and broadcasting and has been very active in that area professionally and also volunteering. The next person is Dr. William Griffin and he also is someone who's familiar, from Lincoln, to people who are supportive of public television. He has been a part of the National Public Radio Foundation and active in that area and expressed his support for public television. And then last was John Heil and John also was on the NPTV Board and served as its past president. We asked...and then Paul McIntosh from Norfolk appeared before us also with experience from the...being active at the community colleges and a strong supporter of public television. We asked each of the applicants about realizing what is before us as far as funding for public television. Each seemed to be well-aware of the commitment necessary and the funding requests that will be before us for public television and the committee certainly felt that the Governor had selected people who are very well-qualified, very well-committed to public television and committed to seeing its continued success for Nebraska. With that, Mr. President, I present the nominations to you and ask for the Legislature to approve them.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. For discussion on the Education Committee report, Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Bohlke has just described the nominees for the Nebraska Educational Television...Telecommunications Commission. I would certainly support the confirmation of these. I agree that these are an outstanding group of people. I wanted to mention in particular one, William T. Griffin. He mentioned in the hearing that one of his motives for seeking