

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

May 5, 1999

LB 176

think a lot of the speed on these lakes with boats and jet skis is both a concern, so I'm going to support the amendment and going to support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schmitt. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to address partially, although probably inadequately, Senator Adrian Smith's comments regarding the dangers of boats. I did talk to the Administrative Law Enforcement Division, Mr. Ted Blume with Game and Parks. He's behind the glass right now, should any colleagues wish to converse with him regarding the current boating laws, and he did in a short amount of time just basically say that this is a modification of the current laws regarding boats. But, frankly, if we do need to look at boats, to expand this bill, I would rather have that be a different bill and allow this to sail forth, frankly. This has been a multiyear project and I certainly appreciate that others recognize the need to further investigate regulating...regulation of boating safety and so forth. But let's just hopefully do one bill at a time and let's get this one passed before we start going into other areas. But I did want to announce to the body that Mr. Ted Blume is behind the glass and is available for discussion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Senator Janssen on the committee amendments to LB 176.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature. Jet skis over the last few years have been more prominent than they have over the past few years. I have a little problem with where people are using the jet skis. Now if you get...if you get on a 5,000 acre lake, something like that, there's plenty of room, but in my district, as probably most of you know, we have the Fremont Lakes, which are...which are sandpits. They are not very large. And on a busy summer Sunday, about all that the officers, who are out there trying to keep people from killing themselves, get done is regulate the operators of jet skis, and there have been accidents there. I don't know whether there's been any fatalities there. There may have been but right off hand I can't...I can't recall any, but