

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

May 18, 1999

LB 176

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Bruning, you're recognized for a motion to adopt the amendments.

**SENATOR BRUNING:** Mr. Speaker, I move we adopt the E & R amendments for LB 176.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** The question before the body is the adoption of the E & R amendments. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. They are adopted.

**CLERK:** Mr. President, the first amendment I have, Senator Schrock. Senator, I've got what was AM1145 pending, but I have a note, Mr. Speaker, that Senator Schrock would like to withdraw AM1145 and offer as a substitute AM1855.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Is there any objection to the substitution? So ordered. Senator Schrock, you're recognized to open. (AM1855, Legislative Journal page 2227.)

**SENATOR SCHROCK:** Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, AM1855 could be called the Game and Parks clean-up bill. You are receiving a handout, because one of the major provisions of this large amendment is increased fines for illegal hunting, taking of animals, game animals, fish, in the state of Nebraska. This issue has had an interim study. There are certainly people in the state that are interested in it. You received a handout last week on this issue, but I'm giving you another handout. Certainly, Senator Chambers has had a chance to scrutinize this amendment, because it does deal with increased fines and penalties. But we have found that our fines for poaching of game animals, the illegal taking of game animals and fish in this state, are quite archaic. Matter of fact, in some cases it's probably cheaper to forget about getting a license; just go out and hunt and pay the fine. And in some cases, we've had testimony that the fine would be less than the resale value of the carcass, for some of these animals can be quite valuable if they are...if somebody wants them to hang them up on their wall, if it's a good mount, a good rack, or whatever the case may be. It is a rather large amendment, but most of it deals with increasing fines for violation of our gaming laws. If you have any questions, I'd be glad to try to answer them. I'm not going over it in detail. It's quite a thick amendment. It's been