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LB 709

Nebraska Bankers, the Independent Bankers and the State Bar Association. Over the last several months, there have been a number of meetings between the real estate appraiser people, the Bar Association, and the bankers, and the result of those meetings is the amendment AM1072 (sic-1062), which is the committee amendments. What the amendments do, actually, is to protect the public. The legislation provides that only licensed and certified appraisers may supervise appraisers that are being trained. The intent is to ensure supervision by someone with the appropriate education and with the appropriate experience to train someone who does not have the education or the experience. Also the legislation protects the consumer by removing exemptions that are given to unregulated tax consultants. It increases...or it's intended to increase the competence of the beginning appraisers by requiring that they have additional hours of training before they can begin their work. It allows the appraiser's board to take disciplinary action when an act or omission represents or constitutes dishonesty or fraud. And, finally, the legislation establishes the same maximum credentialing fee for all appraiser classifications which would be \$300. In essence, that's what the bill now does. The amendment is quite lengthy. However, most of those changes were done by the bill drafters to just delete repetitive language, make it more easily read. With that, I would close on the opening and ask that you do advance the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Senator Landis, you are recognized to open on the committee amendments to LB 709.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. Senator Hudkins was accurate when she said that the committee amendments are essentially now the bill because there is essentially white copy. However, a portion of that is from the original bill, a portion of that is the work of the committee, basically at the behest of Senator Hudkins because she worked this bill out. The part that is the committee amendments are the deletion of provisions in the bill that would have established the registered appraiser trainee as a new classification, and so that is out as of the committee amendments. Also, it goes back into the exemptions from the Real Estate Appraiser Act so that owners and licensed attorneys that render opinions on real