

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 29, 2003 LB 69A, 122

Judiciary Committee. And a new A bill, Mr. President. (Read LB 69A by title for the first time.) That's all that I have. (Legislative Journal pages 336-338.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. On with discussion of FA1151 to LB 122 offered by Senator Chambers. Open for discussion. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think what Senator Chambers' bill (sic) does is returns the fees back to where they were prior to 1994. That is unacceptable. Senator Chambers does pose the question of...Senator Chambers does pose the question of why people want to serve on the Game Commission. It is somewhat of a mystery to me, but I will confess that I've had a lot of people inquire about it in my district--well, how do you get on the Game Commission? So it is a sought-after position. I'm not quite sure why, but I think it's because hunting and fishing activity in the state is so valued by so many people, and the people want to have a part in making sure that our park system and our game and hunting and fishing system is run fairly, and that their area of the state gets a fair shake on everything. So I think there is a lot of interest in Game and Parks, and that's the reason those positions are sought after. I can tell you that I'm concerned about the drought. I'm concerned about the impact on our reservoirs. Swanson Reservoir in southwest Nebraska, I think Senator Baker would tell you, is at probably all-time low levels, and there won't be much recreation opportunities there this summer. Harlan County Reservoir, if I had my druthers and the weather permitted, I'd rather be fishing this afternoon. But I'm going to be in a hearing rather rather than fishing and, Senator Chambers, if you would like to take care of that free day of fishing, would like to fish free with me some day, I would extend the offer and I think we could have a good time. And, you know, for me...I know Senator Cudaback doesn't like this activity. He doesn't...he thinks those hooks hurt the fish. But, to me, there's nothing more exhilarating than having a fishing pole in your hand and having that jerk, jerk and pull, and try and reel that fish in, and just maybe some day you'll bring in that master angler. I can tell you that last summer we had a water task force meeting at Lake McConaughy and I believe