

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 3, 2003 LB 305

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, he did.

SENATOR BYARS: Was given an opportunity to explain his position fully to the committee?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, he did.

SENATOR BYARS: Had an opportunity to confront, if you would, the information that has been shared to the committee by Game and Parks?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct.

SENATOR BYARS: What was the committee vote in moving the bill out?

SENATOR SCHROCK: The committee vote was unanimous, either 8-0 or 7-0 with one absent.

SENATOR BYARS: Was there any question on eliminating this provision from LB 305?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, there was. It was even suggested by, I believe, yours truly, that maybe we should limit his importation of pigs to male species only. You know, if you don't have the male and the female, they can't reproduce. But I won't explain that to you on the floor of the Legislature. But after further consideration, we decided that it was best to just eliminate all pig hunting in this state. I would tell you that we don't believe Mr. Meints has very many pigs on site right now. This bill would not go into effect until September 1. So any stock he would have on hand, he can...he could still continue that hunt until September 1. And after he was cited and after piglets were farm...were sighted on his farm, and after he was cited by Game and Parks, he has only imported the male species since then. So I think he's trying. But it's kind of been a long struggle between his operation and Game and Parks. And I think it's best to lay it to rest. And if we allow him to hunt pigs, and other people start doing it in this state, we're just opening ourself up to a risk we don't need to take.