

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

March 19, 2003

for the State Fire Marshal's position. The committee suggests the appointment be confirmed by the Legislature, and suggests a record vote. We had the hearing the other day. I believe it was Friday. And Mr. Hohbein came in. He has a long record with the State Fire Marshal's Office, having first come on board in 1975, at which time he was a Deputy State Fire Marshal, and was promoted to Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal in 1997 (sic), and was with the Fire Marshal's Department until 1995, at which time he went to the Nebraska Development Center in Beatrice as a safety coordinator, and was there from 1995 to the year 2000. And then, in the year 2000, he came back to the State Marshal's Office, and was the Assistant State Fire Marshal, which of course is the chief one right below the Fire Marshal. Mr. Hohbein is from Beatrice. He has a long, long list of training in all kinds of emergency and safety procedures, which I won't go into in detail, but it's like a two and a half-, three-page list of different training opportunities that he's had. In addition to that, I should mention that he's been very involved in his community, and gave a very good presentation at the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee hearing. So with that, I would simply ask for you to confirm this report. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. (Visitors and doctor of the day introduced.) On with discussion of the confirmation report by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, Senator Byars, followed by Senator Vrtiska. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I wanted just to take a brief moment to speak in support of Dennis Hohbein to be made the permanent Fire Marshal. Ironically, Mr. Hohbein was hired for the Beatrice Fire Department originally by my father, who was the chairman of the Civil Service Commission many more years ago than we'd like to imagine. But I have worked closely with Mr. Hohbein over the years in his position on the Beatrice Fire Department and in the State Fire Marshal's Office. He is a person of high credibility, and I would certainly speak in support of this appointment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Vrtiska.