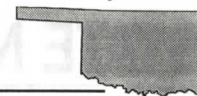


# STATE NEWS WEEKLY SUMMARY CONTINUED



John Hugon, of Duncan, was confirmed to the State Board of Education.

Sponsored by Sen. Carol Martin, R-Comanche, Hugon will serve a six year term, ending April 1, 2002. He was confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0.

Stephen Jatras, of Tulsa, was confirmed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. He will serve a nine year term, ending May 16, 2005.

Sponsored by Sen. Don Rubottom, R-Tulsa, he was confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0.

Carl Renfro, of Ponca City, was also confirmed to the State Regents for Higher Education. He will serve an unexpired term, ending May 16, 1998.

Sponsored by Sen. Paul Muegge, D-Tonkawa, he has been serving at the post since last July.

Renfro was confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0.

Finally, Sylvia Weedman, of Shawnee, was confirmed to the Oklahoma Student Loan Authority.

In the absence of her sponsoring senator, Sen. Brad Henry, D-Shawnee, Committee Chairman Ed Long, D-Enid, sponsored her confirmation.

Confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0, Weedman will serve an unexpired term, ending April 6, 1997.

—BRANDON BEARD  
05/13/96

## TOURISM & RECREATION CONFIRMS NOMINATIONS

■(GIT) The Senate Tourism and Recreation Committee confirmed five of Governor Frank Keating's executive nominations Monday.

Sponsored by Sen. Bernice Shedrick, D-Stillwater, Reginald Bess, of Langston, was confirmed to the State Arts Council of Oklahoma.

With a vote of 10 to 0, he was confirmed and will serve a three year term, ending July 1, 1998.

Lucia Freeman, of Tulsa, was also confirmed, with a vote of 10 to 0, to the State Arts Council.

Sponsored by Sen. Charles Ford, R-Tulsa, Freeman will also serve a three year term, ending July 1, 1998.

Jonathan David Helmerich, of Tulsa, was confirmed to the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission.

Sponsored by Sen. Don Rubottom, R-May 17, 1996

Tulsa, Helmerich was confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0.

Joe Martin, of Weatherford, was also confirmed to the Tourism and Recreation Commission with a vote of 8 to 0.

He will serve an at large position on the commission, a six year term, ending July 1, 2002. He was sponsored by Sen. Robert M. Kerr, D-Altus.

Chris Sutherland was confirmed to the J.M. Davis Memorial Commission.

Sponsored by Ford, he was confirmed with a vote of 10 to 0, to serve a term that ends Aug. 1, 1997.

—BRANDON BEARD  
05/13/96

## SENATE WILDLIFE HOLDS BRIEF MEETING

■(GIT) Members of the Senate Committee on Wildlife met briefly Monday to confirm two of Governor Frank Keating's executive nominations and to adopt one House Joint Resolution.

William C. Crawford, of Frederick, was confirmed to another term on the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Sponsored by Sen. Gilmer Capps, D-Snyder, Crawford will serve an 8 year term, ending July 1, 2003. He was confirmed with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also confirmed to the Wildlife Commission, though he was not present for his confirmation, was John Groendyke, of Enid.

Sponsored by Sen. Ed Long, D-Enid, the owner of Groendyke Transportation Company was confirmed with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also before the committee was HJR1098, by Shurden. The resolution disapproves an emergency rule of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission because it does not reflect the intent of the Legislature.

The problem stems from the commission charging \$11 for special Bobcat-Raccoon-Gray Fox Licenses. The Legislature had originally allowed the commission to charge only \$10 for the license. The commission

*"I have the consolation of having added nothing to my private fortune during my public service, and of retiring with hands as clean as they are empty."*

Thomas Jefferson

began charging the increased fee in an attempt to compensate for the \$1 it loses for each license that is retained by the entity selling the license.

The resolution was adopted.

—BRANDON BEARD  
05/13/96

## SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO HEAR KEATING, LAWMAKERS'S SUIT

■(GIT) The Oklahoma Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected a bid by Governor Frank Keating and two state lawmakers to have the state's highest court decide whether the legislature has violated the concept of separation of powers by making appointments to executive boards and commissions.

The 5-4 decision means the lawsuit, which pits the governor and two Republican representatives against the Speaker of the House, the Senate's President Pro Tempore, a handful of Democratic lawmakers and other state officials, will be handled in district court, rather than by the state Supreme Court.

Governor Keating said he had not yet had time to review the court's opinion in impromptu remarks at a bill signing on Tuesday. The governor also said he would continue to veto legislation that contains the controversial appointment powers provision.

At issue is whether the state's constitutional separation of powers doctrine is violated when the legislature vests in itself or legislative leaders the authority to make appointments to executive branch boards and commissions whose function is the execution and administration of law.

Senate President Pro Tem Stratton Taylor said, "I'm pleased that the court accepted our arguments and decided not to accept original jurisdiction in the case."

Writing for the five-member majority, Justice Robert E. Lavender said that the litigants showed no immediacy or urgency concerning the conflict which would justify the Supreme Court taking original jurisdiction over the case. Instead, the justice wrote, the court "must keep in mind its appellate nature in absence of such a showing."

In a special concurring opinion, Justice Robert D. Simms wrote, "(T)he parties seek an advisory opinion on an abstract question, and it has long been the rule that this court does not give advisory opinions or answer

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