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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Senator Byars, as Vice Chairman of the committee, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members. Health and Human Services Committee is reporting favorably upon three nominations from the Governor. The committee obviously suggests that these appointments be confirmed. Our first recommendation, Dr. Richard Raymond, who is appointed by Governor Johanns as the director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Regulation and Licensure. Dr. Raymond has been the...a member of the Policy Cabinet at the Department of Health and Human Services for...since 1999. He has been reassigned positions as the director of Department of Health and Human Services, Regulation and Licensure, but is quite well known to all of us. The second nominee is Richard P. Nelson, who has been appointed by Governor Johanns as the director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Finance and Support. Again, Mr. Nelson served in another position. He served as the director of Department of Health and Human Services, Regulation and Licensure, also since 1999, and assumes this as a new position. Our newest nominee is Richard N. DeLiberty, who was appointed by the Governor as the administrator of the Division of Behavioral Health Services within the Department of Health and Human Services, and comes to us from Carmel, Indiana; has been a leader in public policy, healthcare, and nonprofit management. He's been a change agent, responsible for numerous reforms in the Indiana Division of Mental Health; cut populations in state hospitals; increased state and federal matching dollars allocated to community services; worked with a variety of constituencies, including civic committees, boards, and both legislative and advocacy groups to ensure quality of life improvements for individuals with mental disabilities. And, Senator Cudaback, I would recommend the favorable approval of Richard Raymond, Richard P. Nelson, and Richard DeLiberty.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Byars. You've heard the opening on the confirmation report offered by the Health and Human Services Committee. Open for discussion on that motion. Anybody wishing to speak to the confirmation report by Health and Human Services Committee? Seeing no lights on, Senator