

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 23, 2006

(Doctor of the day introduced.) Next agenda item, Mr. Clerk, motion to withdraw.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a second confirmation report from Natural Resources.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I'm sorry.

CLERK: Involves the appointment of Mr. Vaughn Blum to the Environmental Quality Council. It's offered by the Natural Resources Committee. (Legislative Journal page 415.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: I'm sorry. Senator Schrock, to open.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Vaughn Blum was unable to attend the confirmation hearing for his reappointment to the council on January 18, but he was represented by Mike Linder, director of the Department of Environmental Quality. The Environmental Quality is a 17-member council, and Mr. Blum represents the food production and manufacturing interests. This will be his second term on the council. Mr. Blum is from Columbus. He is manager of, G.M., Excel Corporation in Schuyler and has served on the Scotus School Board, state chamber, and has helped with UNL fund-raising. In private conversations with Mike Linder, Mike said that Vaughn is very attentive and attends almost all the Environmental Quality Council meetings. So the fact that he had something come up at the last minute that he couldn't be there shouldn't affect his reappointment, I don't believe. With that, I would recommend that you vote to confirm Vaughn Blum. The committee vote was unanimously in favor of this. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. You've heard the opening on the second report by the Natural Resources Committee. Senator Stuthman, for discussion.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I truly support the appointment of Vaughn Blum. I've worked with this gentleman for many years. In my opinion, he's a very open-minded, conscientious individual, and he takes things into consideration. He's a very good person to have on