

pril 9, 1980

says they shall be of judicious temperment which is a great qualification. That qualifies almost anyone to serve on a parole board. On two different occasions I introduced legislation to change the qualification of parole board members based upon a national study. On both those occasions the legislation was denied. Here we are now looking at an individual for reappointment which is primarily political and I'm certain for another three years even though the term I believe calls for six. I think that it is time this body shows some direct courage and say to the Governor we believe that there are other individuals who are qualified to the extent that when they look at an individual asking for parole they can treat it objectively, not look at previous behavior and say you are ready to take that opportunity. As I read some of the dialogue which has occurred with Mr. Greenholtz and those who come before him it is rather frightening. Because it is obvious on a parole board and they question an individual eligible for parole that he dominates the board to such an extent that other members are intimidated. I do not believe that that is in the best interest of correction improvements. I believe that his body now should say no to Mr. Greenholtz and say we commend you for your service but it is time that we look at someone else for this appointment. Certainly with all of the Governor's acquaintances in this state there are others who can fill this job with equal dedication and I think without prejudice for those who for some reason have been incarcerated. If we are serious about what we have been doing in this body and the teams that have been put together to try to bring about a better correctional institution, then I think we had better take this appointment seriously and say this is one step, let's find another person for this position and let's find a person who has the qualifications equal to or better than and let's get on with it. Now I'll say in conclusion that I have nothing personally against Mr. Greenholtz. But, I do believe, that Mr. Greenholtz of his own volition knowing how this body feels and how the committee struggled over his reappointment that he should make that step and say, I will retire voluntarily. However, obviously, knowing his stubbornness, he will not. He will say I'm going to sit there until the last man is hung. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I also very strongly oppose to the reappointment of Mr. Greenholtz. Senator Venditte kind of amuses me on some of the positions that he will take. Because not too long ago he was very upset about people driving while intoxicated.