

November 17, 1989

all fine individuals, no doubt about it, but there are certain areas of responsibility, and in two of these instances they are supposed to be representing, I have personally been informed, by the areas they represent, that they disagree with these individuals. I have not had a chance to inquire any further. But I am not comfortable at this time with asking the body to confirm all of them, and in the absence of that kind of information, I do not think, and the committee concurs with me...a majority of the committee concurs with me, that we should not request confirmation of any of the new appointees at this time. No doubt they will probably all be confirmed. Maybe they're going to serve anyway, I don't know. Maybe Senator Chambers is right. But I believe very firmly, in line with Senator Withem, that this Legislature should take some action rather than just to be silent on it, and I think that is what we're trying to do.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, you're next, but may I introduce some guests, please, in the north balcony. Senator Dierks has some students from Neligh, Nebraska, District 38. We have six second, fifth and sixth graders with their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Senator Hartnett has guests in the north balcony, 21 fourth through sixth graders from Cardinal Spellman Elementary School in Bellevue with their teachers. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Morrissey, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I can't argue with the point Senator Chambers brought up. But the problem is when I came in last year, brand new, one of the most amazing or perplexing things to me was sitting there and in a 10, or 15, or 20 minute interview supposedly getting a feeling of these folks that are appointed to these boards and voting them up or down. And, quite truthfully, almost all the time it was always up. In talking to people in the last couple of days about this problem, a lot of people couldn't remember anyone ever being rejected. Either our Governors in our history have had just excellent ability to choose people for these jobs, or we're just, as Senator Schmit said, rubber-stamping them. If that is the way it is, I think the system is wrong. We...These people, these boards are becoming more and more important all the time. We're talking about the Ethanol Authority and millions and millions of dollars. We're talking about the Environmental Control Council that will also be handling