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this point. I think there has been some excellent debate on the general questions of legislative confirmations, what our procedures ought to be, what it means when we take action or don't take action, and I thank all of the members for those comments, but I guess I'd return you back to what is before us. What's before us is a dilemma that the Education Committee had when 12 individuals, who were notified that there should be a confirmation hearing, did not attend. I'm not saying it's their fault, I'm not saying it's our fault. My guess is that probably the message did not get translated via the Director of the Safety Center Advisory Council, and for that reason, they weren't there. But we have a dilemma. There are four actions that we can see that we can take, none of them, frankly, very appealing. This is the least onerous of the options that we have. Number one, we could do nothing. We could just adjourn and pretend like this didn't happen. It's pretty clear in my mind that what happens then is they are confirmed through legislative nonaction, and they will continue to serve. That is not discharging legislative responsibility to advise and consent on these nominations. Secondly, we could vote...offer a positive confirmation. We could say, well, they didn't show up, we don't know anything about them, but we assume that they are probably good people and suggest that you confirm them without anybody in the Legislature having had the opportunity to question them or to analyze the appointments. The third option is one I very seriously considered and have rejected. But the third option was to bring forward a recommendation to the Legislature that we deny the confirmation of these individuals, and make it clear in the debate that we're not denying them because they are evil people, bad people, but because the only thing that we thought we could do was ask that you deny them, and then submit a letter to the Governor saying, please, if you're still comfortable with these individuals, reappoint them and we will then be happy to act on their confirmation the next chance we get. We rejected that because it's not fair to these 12 individuals to have a legislative...a first in Senator Morrissey's history, first in my recollection to have the Legislature actually deny their confirmation. It's not fair to them, it wasn't their fault. So the only action we see is to ask that you defer action on these confirmations. It's a fairly simple procedure. It does not cause any great problems, I don't see. Senator Chambers may well be right. His interpretation of the legislative authority, the Constitution, and the statutes may, in fact, be right and that by passing this action we may well, in fact, lose our options to take any action at a future