

January 27, 1992

has their permit so he would not be voting on the particular company we're talking about but there might be further permits or further issues that would come before the council that would address the uranium mining issue and there was question of objectivity. Having since talked to other individuals and I think Mr. Sommer has gone around and talked to some of the members of the committee, I think maybe some of the early concerns relating to that issue of objectivity has been allayed and I expect that Natural Resources Committee will reexamine his application at our next executive session. The second concern expressed by some of the members was this particular appointment was to be I believe in the area of food processing and Mr. Sommer is a bee keeper and there was some question of whether or not a bee keeper actually qualifies as being a food processor or representative of the food processing industry. Those were the two, if I recall, those were the two major objections raised. He was not actually voted down as far as voting not to confirm him, it was simply a situation when his confirmation came up we voted and he did not receive the necessary five votes to be sent to the floor. As I said, I expect that application to be reexamined by the Natural Resources Committee and thus, we'll decide whether or not to send that on to you. I've been asked what would happen if the application would not be sent to the body at some particular point. I guess at that point we would notify the Governor's Office that there is a problem that needs to be addressed and see what the Governor's Office would want to do about that, but the whole process of confirming or denying applicants automatic appointment to agency boards or councils ultimately lies in the hands of this body as to whether we confirm them and I think raising some questions about all of the conferees is important but I think in this one particular case, I guess you can raise conflict of interest on almost all candidates ~~but~~ in this one particular case that came up there just seemed to be basic concerns that the body, or at least the majority of the members of the committee just felt at that time they were not ready to vote on that particular, or confirm that particular individual without further questions being answered which I assume has happened or is beginning to happen and by the next executive session we may very well confirm Mr. Sommer at that time. With that, that's the bulk of my points, I guess would not like to see...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.