

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 27, 1999

Legislature. I'd just like to ask Senator Schrock a question, please.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Schrock, would you yield?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: I have...I'm going to support the request here this morning. I just wanted to ask a question about the...that you might be able to tell me an answer to what...what is the purpose of this group and how much are they...how much is their opinion respected or listened to?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Dierks, I may not be the right one to answer that, but I can tell you they meet on a quarterly basis and examine issues and make recommendations, and I think in the past it's been a valuable assistance to the Natural Resources Committee and to other government agencies. I'm still a little new on the game plan here but I think their purpose is probably essential. They don't meet a lot. I think that what people that we heard from and the backgrounds that we read on the people that have been nominated, quality people serve on the council.

SENATOR DIERKS: Do they, when they make a decision at that council meeting, is it a decision that has to be unanimous or can someone...can someone object or do they have a voting record of those opposed and those in favor? How does...how do the decisions come out of that committee?

SENATOR SCHROCK: There's a record vote that who votes what...who votes how on issues, and I believe it's a majority rules as far as the recommendations.

SENATOR DIERKS: Do you think that their opinions are utilized by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Legislature?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I do.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Further