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not returned, and a call from the committee was not returned. That doesn't seem to be the way we should be operating. If there is a problem, at least return a call and give us information and stay in communication, but to simply ignore when someone calls I think is very inappropriate. And it is important that these people are appointed because when they're not approved and when they're not appointed it makes it difficult to even get a quorum and to have these boards and commissions function the way we intend for them to function. These people knew that they were applying, have been attending some meetings, and yet they couldn't vote in the meetings because they hadn't been approved. It raises the question of should they even be attending the meetings when they're not approved, but yet they are open meetings so they should be able to. But when they can't vote and when they need to have a quorum and don't have a quorum, that doesn't speak well for the process. So when we have qualified people, and we have two other people representing the 2nd Congressional District who are currently serving and whose terms have expired, or at least in one case, and they can't even be approved, and the one name for the other applicant have not even been forwarded to us, it makes it difficult to function. And particularly the Environmental Trust is a very important board. It should have all of the people there. It should be able to function. So I raise the concern that something is not functioning the way it needs to within boards and commissions' office. I don't know what that is because calls have not been returned, and we are told that it's notorious, that you won't get a call returned from them. I don't think that's appropriate. I don't think it's appropriate that we have to suspend the rules for these four committees to be able to do this. I raise no question with the appointees, but I do raise the question with the process and the way that this is being done, and I would hope that whatever the problem is can be corrected so that it doesn't continue to operate this way as it has for well over a year, because we've been dealing with this for a long time, far too long. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Jones, on the report.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, I think