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FLOOR DEBATE

February 3, 2004

incentives to rent and lease land to beginning farmers. I mentioned the other day the makeup of the board, and I'll just quickly mention that again. It's made up of the Director of Agriculture, the Tax Commissioner, one individual representing ag credit lenders, one agricultural economist, and three ag producers, one from each congressional district. Tim Schram is from Gretna, Nebraska. He's in Senator Bromm's district. And he is...this is a reappointment to the District 2 ag producer position, and it is a four-year term. He is a farmer from the Gretna area. He farms with his brothers since 1980, and he operates the Schram Auction Company since 1986. He's a member of the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners. He is formerly Sarpy County Planning Commission, and served on the Sarpy County Extension Board. Some of his community activities, he's served as a NACO juvenile steering committee. He conducts benefit auctions for the American Heart Association and other charitable organizations. We held the public hearing for the confirmation of Tim Schram, his appointment, on January 27. The committee did waive the requirement for him to appear in person. It was a snowy day, and he was not able to come in. But he did send us a letter, an e-mail, stating his support of the program and his desire to serve on the board, and also his support in seeing more young farmers and ranchers being able to get into the business. Because of the weather, I said, he was not there. But he was represented by Senator Bromm. Senator Bromm is his state senator, as well as an acquaintance of his. And so the committee did vote 5 to 1 to recommend his appointment. All the committee members that were present voted his approval. With that, I move the adoption of the Ag Committee's confirmation report.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Further discussion? Seeing none, the Chair would recognize Senator Kremer to close. He waives closing. The question is on the adoption of the Agriculture Committee's confirmation report. All those in favor please vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote, Legislative Journal page 494.)
32 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the report, Mr. President.