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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...this morning, while I'm taking time as a part of my grand strategy, as I call it, I want to call attention at the same time to our process. I wanted to be sure and mention that my "no" vote on the nomination of Mr. Baker has nothing whatsoever to do with him, because I would not know him from Adam's house cat. I don't even know if Adam had a house cat, but if he did, I wouldn't know one from the other, based on personal knowledge. Mr. President, I will not take all the time that I have, because I'm trying to be collegial. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Friend, on the confirmation report offered by the Natural Resources Committee.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President. I don't know where we're going here today, so I figured I'd speak right now. We may not go anywhere. Senator Chambers has laid that down, and that's fine. We've already established the process is messed up. I spoke to that the other day. I wanted to elaborate on a couple of things that I said, and discuss this really briefly, because it's bothersome to me. Senator Chambers has brought out the idea, and possibly even the fact, that the Governor rules a lot of the things that happen in this Legislature. Right now, what's happening is, the media is ruling what happens in this Legislature. That's what's going on. The EPA can investigate. We've established yesterday in another set of hearings that the EPA can investigate for virtually any possible reason. It doesn't have to be a complaint. They can say, hey, this industry, it's their turn now; guess what, we're going in. And to be quite honest, we heard from two people yesterday, Tomas Miller and Don Williams, these two gentlemen seemed totally qualified. We grilled them. The problem is, they could get investigated next week at Nucor Steel, and then we're back here again reconsidering these...one of these guys. The bottom line is this: Debra McDowell was as qualified on paper as I can determine. And we did discuss this with her. You can ask Senator Preister. She came in. We've had people that didn't come in. We've had senators sitting there and they said, take our word for it. Hence, the process is messed up. We can all agree there. My problem is, the Governor rules half of what's