

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

March 3, 2004

Natural Resources Committee? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote, Legislative Journal pages 850-851.)  
32 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of that piece of  
the confirmation report.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to the appointment of Debra  
McDowell, Senator Schrock would move to return the appointment  
of Debra McDowell to the Natural Resources Committee for further  
consideration.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, to open on your motion.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Thank you, Mr. President. The motion before  
you is to return Debra McDowell's name to the Natural Resources  
Committee, where we will hold another hearing on her  
confirmation. Senator Chambers, if I may have a little bit of  
your time, I think it would inappropriate to judge somebody  
before we have all the facts. And we are going to ask the body  
here today to return Debra McDowell's name to the committee and  
have a hearing. And if that is successful, I would invite you  
to attend that hearing. If you would want to be questioning  
her, that could be accommodated. I have no problem with that.  
But I don't think I'm going to stand up here and say all the  
good things or bad things about Debra McDowell, or Chief  
Industries, when we don't even know what the investigation is  
about. And some of that is confidential. There was some  
misinformation put out. But what this does, it turns her name  
back to the committee. We will hold a public hearing. And  
anybody in the body who would like to be present, would like to  
ask questions, I would accommodate that. And then you can judge  
as to whether she is fit to serve or not. One of the things we  
do in this state is elect a Governor. And probably the most  
important thing the Governor does is appoint people to boards  
and commissions. We have kind of become a rubber stamp. I  
would acknowledge that. I don't know what to do about that.  
But I do think that's one of the privileges the Governor has, is  
these appointments. And some of them, like Game and Parks  
commissioners, are very sought after positions. I don't know