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Legislature, and specifically the Judiciary Committee, in this case, would like to see come out of the Department of Corrections. It was good, and I think it's very important that we all get involved in these types of hearings, when these positions are so important, and especially when these areas spend so great amounts of our money. I now, and have for the last month, endorsed Mr. Houston for this position, and I look forward to working with him in this position. I encourage you to confirm him, also. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Dwite Pedersen. Further discussion on the confirmation report. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members on the Legislature. I want to say some things on the record, because I had gone on the record, in the newspaper, in opposition to Mr. Houston being appointed. My opposition at that time was based on the method or the process by which the Governor arrived at selecting this gentleman. He and I had a discussion in my office prior to the hearing before the Judiciary Committee, and I had let him know that despite everything that I had said publicly, I would support his appointment. And I think, in view of the fact that he has experienced such scrutiny--and he had a chance to hear from various members of the Judiciary Committee the areas of concern that we have--it may in the long run be better that he is the one who will wind up with the appointment, because he knows he is coming in without being the matinee idol. Some of you are too young to know what that is, but if you need somebody to explain it to you, talk to one of the elder members. He is not the matinee idol, with everybody's support, and therefore, a type of arrogance that might make him feel he is untouchable, he can do no wrong, and he'll do whatever he pleases. I do not think Mr. Houston is unfamiliar with the rules and regulations--not just those in the books, I'm talking about--that would govern a properly run correctional program. I received what I feel was an assurance that he intends to comply with the laws that relate to the department and will have his underlings do the same, especially when it comes to cooperating with the Ombudsman in obtaining information and access to prisoners, and all of the things which, in the statutes that already are on the books, say that the Ombudsman should have. I