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level, he's worked closely in conjunction with the Governor's Policy Research Office on legislative initiatives affecting agriculture, and serves as the liaison to various Nebraska agriculture production boards and associations. On the federal level, he is interactive with all members of the Nebraska congressional delegation on issues affecting agriculture. He's assisted the Governor in agriculture policy development through the Western Governors' Association, through the Midwestern Governors' Conference, and through the National Governors Association and the Governors' Ethanol Coalition. As I said before, he served as our assistant since 2001 in the state Department of Agriculture. He's been a member of the Beginning Farmer Board, he's been the past-president of the Nebraska Beef Council for two years and treasurer for three years, he served on the Nebraska Rural Development Commission, he served as the district chairman of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, he served on the Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Education Task Force, and Agricultural Structure Assessment Task Force. As you can see that he served in many positions and many more on even a local level before he served on some of the state levels. He's also the owner and operator of a cow-calf and grain operation near Sumner, Nebraska, so he's a current farmer who understands the issues. He has served as assistant vice president of the Farm Credit Service of America, and a loan officer with Farm Credit Service of America. As far as education, he has a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, and in 1984 he got a double major in animal science and ag economics. I feel like he answered questions very well we asked him. We spent probably more time on this confirmation hearing than any other that we've done, and we felt like that he was very capable of serving. The vote to ask you to support the recommendation was 7 to 1...7 to 0, with 1 not in attendance. He had a wide support of various organizations from the Farm Bureau, the Pork Producers, Farmers Union, Nebraska Cattlemen. Each came and supported Greg and spoke well of him and his ability to work with people and his knowledge in agriculture, and we feel that he will serve the state very well. So I would ask your support that you would support the recommendation that we, as the Agriculture Committee, bring to you to confirm Greg Ibach to the director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Thank you,