

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

April 12, 2006

for Brissa to return alone to a country that she doesn't know. If Brissa's immigration paperwork is not processed by June 17, she must leave her family and her home, or risk a three-year ban from this country. Frankly, I think Nebraska and the community of Wilbur are better off with Brissa right here where she is, and I hope her paperwork moves rapidly through the system. Our federal representatives must revise our national immigration policies. In the meantime, those of us who have been elected to serve Nebraskans at the state level need to be well informed about all the unexpected twists and turns and the lengthy, lengthy process involved in acquiring citizenship status. Hopefully, we can create links between constituents like the Placeks and the federal officials who can help them. So I want to extend a very warm welcome to them. They are under the balcony. And I would hope that some of us in the body could find time to go over and introduce yourselves to them and say hello to them today. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Further discussion, confirmation report by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Senator Howard.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator Schimek for taking the initiative to look at the confirmation process. As a member of Health and Human Services Committee, it's been very troubling to me to have to vote on confirmations of individuals who can't take the time, or apparently, seemingly so, can't take the time to walk across the street from the State Office Building on a clear, sunny day to attend their own confirmation hearing and be present. This is especially troubling when it's a new appointment and the individual has no previous experience in this position. I thank Senator Schimek, and I think this is well overdue. I've expressed these same feelings in my committee. I welcome the opportunity to look at this issue and make this process meaningful. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Howard. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I can't help but respond to the comments made about those who don't come