

April 9, 1980

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I wish to speak on behalf of Mr. Greenholtz. After the first hearing I could not have voted for his support, I would not have voted on or against his appointment because considerable conflict came before us and we had some transcripts that . . . showing that Mr. Greenholtz had used rather abusive language a few times. But, after that we were provided with transcripts that I think put it in different perspective. He has given a lot of prisoners a lot of encouragement, in other transcripts, and I do not think that derogative remarks of his are a pattern of Mr. Greenholtz. After all, the parole system is one where the people coming up for parole, most of them have been in quite a little trouble or they wouldn't be in the penal complex. Some of them I think have trouble understanding polite language. Mr. Greenholtz has had years of experience in corrections and I think that it is extremely important that one of five board members have corrections experience. Because they can be conned and if they are conned too many times, I think it jeopardizes the parole system. Now he has only one of five votes on the parole board. The other members of the parole board came in strongly speaking in support of Mr. Greenholtz and I did not read these as weak people. I think they are strong people and I think that this should really be taken significantly. The other members of that parole board supporting him, minorities are represented on that parole board, and they did not feel, it was not felt that it was an issue of caucasian versus black. I think to reject Mr. Greenholtz would be a serious mistake and really jeopardize the parole system if a weak appointment was put in place of him. So, I would urge the body to support Mr. Greenholtz for his reappointment to the parole board, realizing that he is not a perfect person, but an extremely strong person that understands corrections, the system and can communicate straight off with the prisoners, whether you like everything he said or not, I don't, but I think he is a strong appointment and I would like to see him confirmed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Cope. Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: I call for the question.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is shall debate cease. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Question is shall debate cease. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President.