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Full Details

Impeaching Gov. Recommended
 Reported by: *Patrick Fazio*
 Thursday, Jan 8, 2009 @08:21pm EST

Impeachment is recommended for Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich. The committee investigating Blagojevich voted Thursday night to recommend the Illinois House of Representatives impeach Governor Blagojevich.

The committee says it has evidence that Blagojevich tried to trade "official acts" for campaign contributions. That's in addition to the federal corruption charges he faces of trying to sell Barack Obama's U.S. Senate seat.

Blagojevich recently appointed Roland Burriss to the Senate. Burriss testified Thursday in front of the impeachment committee. "I can before this committee state that there was nothing legal, personal or political exchanged for my appointment to this seat," said Illinois U.S. Senate Appointee (D) Roland Burriss.

A Wabash Valley native has been serving on the impeachment committee and spoke with us after the vote to recommend impeachment and Burriss' testimony.

"At his word, under oath, there would appear to be no impropriety that took place in that appointment... and he probably will become the Senator from Illinois," Ill. State Rep. Roger Eddy (R - Hutsonville) said, "The General Assembly had the opportunity three weeks ago when we met after the Governor's arrest to pass legislation that would have provided for a special election, but the Democratic majority in Illinois decided that the vote of the people wasn't what needed to take place and it's resulted in the Governor being able to make this appointment."

The U.S. Senate has yet to approve Burriss to be a senator.

The Illinois House of Representatives could vote Friday on whether to go through with the recommendation to impeach. The Illinois Senate would then decide whether to remove Blagojevich from office.

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