

Symms says Nyborg backed for position

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WASHINGTON — Sen. Steve D. Symms, R-Idaho, confirmed Friday he has recommended a longtime Ashton farmer, Keith Nyborg, to be ambassador to Finland.

However, the formal announcement for the appointment will come from the secretary of state, Symms said, explaining that it takes time to clear the necessary government and security papers.

Symms said Nyborg has been unanimously recommended by the entire Idaho congressional delegation.

Symms said Nyborg is of Finnish descent, his wife is a Finland native, he and his family speak Finnish as a second language, and he has visited Finland.

Symms said although he has no positive data, it would appear this is the first time an eastern Idahoan will be named to an ambassadorship.

He said there was one other applicant from Utah.

Symms said the ambassadorship is important because Finland is situated next to the Soviet Union and is thus viewed as a critical spot in the international diplomatic field.