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Speaker. The person who functions as our Speaker is an individual who we expect to manage the process internally and to assume the responsibilities as people view us externally, as someone who will continue to promote the integrity in this institution as many of us have a deep feeling for, and I think that this gentleman has done a superb job of that. In many cases, even beyond the management of the institution, that external view when that person ends up being our spokesman on the outside is extremely important to us, and Dennis has taken that very seriously and has worked very hard in that regard. Some of you may have caught a few weeks ago a TV call-in show where an individual called in and suggested that Dennis was doing quite the job and was very impressed and complimented him, and said, in fact, I think you are doing a damn good job of managing those "hunyaks". Well, Dennis thanked him for the compliment but was very quick to let him know that he really didn't appreciate that kind of language when talking about the Speaker as an entity or the body as an institution. And the guy says, well, regardless, he says, I really think you are doing a damn good job. In fact, he says, I think you are doing such a good job, he says I just mailed a \$500 check to your reelection campaign. And Dennis says, the hell you say. But he has done a good job of managing it. This has probably been the most difficult two years that I have experienced in terms of the issues, and the kinds of things that have gone on. I think probably his greatest weakness in the last two years may have been his Page selection, but beyond that, beyond that, I think we can all be proud of what Dennis has done, and I want to personally thank him for being my friend, and I think this body also would like to thank him as being our spokesman for the last two years and our leader. Dennis, if you would like to come up and get your plaque. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Well, I can't say it has always been a pleasure to be Speaker, but on most occasions it has, and it is something that I feel very proud of. It's not something that I thought I would ever do coming into this body. I never ever did aspire to being Speaker when I came into this body. But it is something that I really do enjoy doing and I am always very proud of this institution. I know that sometimes the public doesn't look on us too favorably, but I really do appreciate the dedicated service that all of you have given to the state, and that all of you give on a daily basis. And I wish that people would