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the chairman is, in fact, relative... is, in fact, directly free from any real close association to those issues. And I believe I would serve that particular purpose; someone from the outside coming in, does not perceived to be directly associated with the issue, that would be simply able to talk with each of the people that are involved, to negotiate, to look and to build a consensus, not only with those people that are asking the Legislature to work in their behalf, but also to the good members of the General Affairs Committee of which I would be working with. The second point is I think that Senator Schellpeper is correct, the key thing of any chairman is to build consensus. I think in the past I've shown that I can build consensus but, number three, the most important thing is when consensus is received, whether the chairman agrees with that consensus of the committee or not, it's the chairman's responsibility to be able to articulate and be an advocate for what the committee members desire. And I believe I can do that clearly and concisely and, again, whether I would disagree with my committee or not, the point is the chairman would be an advocate of that committee and I would... I would be such. I do also want to close with I have also the experience of the various committees. I have been the Vice Chairman of the Government Committee. I've been a member of the Appropriations Committee and I've also served on the General Affairs Committee for two years so I am very familiar with the issues that they have. And, with that, I would appreciate the support and would like to close that whichever people, if there are others in nomination to support, I think the General Affairs will have an excellent chairman. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Bernard-Stevens' name is in nomination. Are there other nominations for the chair of the General Affairs Committee? Seeing no further nominations, we will now proceed to vote. I would... I would appreciate the fact if everyone would be seated in their seats so that we can keep track of the ballots and stuff as we do this. If everyone would be seated, please, and then we will vote. The ballots are on your desk, blank pieces of paper. You may vote on those. I do need a committee to count the ballots. I'm going to have Senator Dierks, if you would, please; Senator Conway, to help count the ballots; and Senator Rod Johnson. The vote results show Schellpeper with 24, Bernard-Stevens with 22. It does require 25 to elect a chairman, so we will reballot at least one more time, and if we are at a deadlock at that point, we do have three members