

January 4, 1995

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Are there any further nominations? The motion is that nominations close and that Senator Schellpeper be elected by acclamation. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. Senator Schellpeper is elected by acclamation. Congratulations, Senator Schellpeper. Our next election is for the Chair of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Nominations are open. The Chair recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Bud, we should have tossed a coin, I guess, we're back here arguing about who is going to go first. But I stand before you today and ask for your support for election as Chairman of the Government Committee. I have served in this capacity for the last two years. I assure you, for those of you who have not been in the body before, that I do take the responsibility very seriously and that I do...that I do come to the job with a lot of preparation, having been a former school teacher, taught Civics and Government for a number of years in the public schools, have been involved in the political process for most of my adult life, understand the issues. I think we have some very important issues on our agenda this year. I think we will be looking at the petition process. There will be issues like government efficiency, campaign finance reform will probably be before us again, and I assure you that I will work hard. I think that I'm a persistent person and like to see things through. So, with that, I would also like to assure you that I think one of the most important functions of a committee chair is not only to see that the homework is done and that the committee functions efficiently, but that the public is treated with respect and I have always tried to make the public feel comfortable when they come to hearings to testify because I believe that we need to hear from them. With that, I would just simply thank you for your attention and ask for your support.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The Chair recognizes Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, I stand before you today to place my nomination for the Chair of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. After a great deal of thought, I have decided that my experience and dedication provide me with the tools to be an excellent leader for this committee. I have served in this body for four years. I have been a member of the Government Committee for two years. My first two years, I