

April 18, 1996

SPEAKER WITHEM: Just thank you all very much. I think it's been a very productive session and, obviously, I appreciate the kind words that Ardyce gave. But this was the session, I think, where, where regardless of what our personal views may have been on the outcome of specific pieces of legislation, it's a year when the body really came together. And that happens every now and then, and certainly did happen this year. And I feel like everybody here that participated in this session deserves a great round of applause and thank you also. So thank you very much for the plaque and thank all of you for a very productive session.

(APPLAUSE)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: As usual, when I'm involved with something in the Legislature, it might occur in a way a little differently from most instances. We're going to take care of our logistics up here, but in the meantime, my opportunity has been presented to say something in behalf of Senator John Lindsay, Chairperson of the Judiciary Committee. He is a young man, much younger than I am, and that shows the reversal of our roles. Usually there's a youngster talking about an old battle-scared warrior who is about to recede into oblivion, but in this case you have a grizzled old trooper who is bidding farewell to a youngster whom I have come to respect tremendously. He is intelligent, principled, generally honest, basically trustworthy, and very, very fair and even-handed in the way he deals with matters related to committee business. I have to share with you this little nugget, and I'm not going to go on too long. When John was going to run for the chairperson of the Judiciary Committee, there were people who deal with certain issues, and they have a different opinion from John's, and they asked me, how could I support him for chairman in view of his view on these particular issues? And I told them that a chairperson to me is an individual who is not one "idead", not locked up in one issue and unable to expand his scope to embrace all of those things that will come before the committee, so these others could have the bad digestion. But for my part, John was the best person for that position. I really regret that he is leaving. I think the Legislature will be the poorer, I think the state will be lesser. I ought to try a tactic used by the Governor, and maybe