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this opportunity to make a few observations quickly about our institution. As you know, this last year there's been I would call a great assault, or great attack, or calling into question the integrity of our institution. And, yes, each one of us are very important to our individual legislative districts and to our constituents. But we have a higher calling and a higher responsibility, and that's to defend this institution and to defend the process. There are those who would like to see this process weakened for their own benefits and gains, not just last year, but in past years and in years to come, and maybe even in this session. And it's our duty and our obligation, when those things are seriously questioned, to defend the Legislature and don't give away the flexibility of the Legislature. The citizens of this state reaffirm their belief in the legislative process. This is how disputes in this state and policy is made. And, yes, we each have our own, individual bill, our own, individual district to look at, and every session is important to us. But there's more to it than that, it's the process. It's an individual responsibility we all have. And I do think that we need to look at what's best for the entire state, and we will do that. This morning we're going to hear lots of speeches with people promising to be fair, and those are sincere, because I believe they will be. But as we start this legislative session, remember that it isn't just for the passage of a bill, it isn't just for the success of a session. You're carrying on a tradition of this institution. And from the very first Unicameral that met, in 1937, till today many other people sat in the chairs that you sit in today, and many more will sit in those chairs in years to come. We're just part of the process. I hope to be a very small part of that process. And I want to be part of that fair process and the efficient one we have this year. I'd certainly appreciate your vote and like to, again, place my name in nomination as Speaker.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Are there any further nominations? Seeing none, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President. I would like to move that nominations cease and that, by acclamation, we declare Senator Doug Kristensen elected Speaker of the Legislature.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The motion before you is the motion to cease