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year, I was elected by the body to serve as the Chair of the Retirement Committee. It was a challenge for me and for my staff. I've gained valuable amount of experience from being Chair of that committee. We were able to pass some very important legislation, through the body, pertaining to retirement. In the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, we have covered everything from airport and towers to veterans affairs and to cemeteries. Speaking of veterans, I am a veteran of the armed services and a member of the American Legion, and I have (laugh)...I have gained a lot of experience in those areas, such as town boards and zoning committees and school boards. If elected, I will work with the committee to bring each bill to a full discussion and to find a reasonable solution to its future. The next four years will be very challenging: National Guard tuition, county government, city and township restructuring, initiative petition process, accountability and disclosure changes. The list goes on and on. These are just a few of the challenges that I see coming in this next four years, and with your help we will be able to meet those challenges as a group and commit...I commit to do the right and honorable thing at the right time and I ask for your help to see that this happens. I have no preset agendas or pet projects that I will push. I wish only to accommodate the body to the best of my ability and to be fair. You can count on that. And thank you very much and I'd appreciate your vote.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President. First of all, I wish to acknowledge also the children and the visitors to our Chambers. I think it's conceivable that some of these children might be sitting here in our seats some day. It wouldn't be the first time, I guess, that a son followed a father into the Legislature or maybe a daughter followed a mother. But we're pleased to have you today and we hope that you enjoy it too. I rise today to place my name in nomination as Chair of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. I do not lightly. I take this responsibility very seriously and I would welcome that responsibility. If elected, I am committed to doing the job that is a credit to the Legislature. For six years, I served on the Government Committee. For two of those six years, I was Vice Chair of the committee. For two of those