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permission, like to preface my motion with an apology to the floor that my ploy of keeping the microphone of Mr. Chairman, as he's known to me, silent failed in the end. With that having been said, I would move that nominations cease and that we declare Senator Kermit Brashear, by acclamation, Chair of Judiciary Committee.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The motion is to elect Senator Brashear as Chair by acclamation. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. Congratulations, Senator Brashear. We move now to the Chairmanship of Natural Resources. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President, members of the Legislature, today I'm going to place my name in front of the legislative body for consideration to become Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee. Most of you know me well. I come from a family farm. I have served as president of the Nebraska Corn Growers Association. I served four years on the Natural Resources Committee. I've served the past two years on the Natural Resources Committee and I've served six years in the Nebraska legislative body. Next to people, I think Nebraska's natural resources are its most important asset and I think it's incumbent upon anybody who chairs that committee to do their utmost to protect those assets. I will try to seek a balance between business interest and environmental interest, but I would say to you that clean, adequate, safe water is probably the most important asset we have in the state and we need to protect that. With any committee there's always going to be a lot of unfinished business that needs to be taken care. It will be that way this year, next year and whatever year, and I would like to proceed with unfinished business that we have in that committee and with any new business that should come forward. If you have legislation in front of the Natural Resources Committee, I would tell you that I would be very fair with you, I will try and accommodate your concerns, and we would do the best we can to see that your legislative bill gets a fair and just hearing. It's been a long day. I'm never one to talk a lot, but I would appreciate your consideration and, with that, I will conclude my remarks. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Beutler.