

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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(Applause)

SENATOR SMITH: I just want to say thank you to all of you for being patient when I was a little bit behind or practicing for sine die down the hallway, whatever the case may have been, but these two sessions have been the greatest part of my life and I appreciate every one of you for making it that way. Thank you.  
(Applause)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Mr. Speaker. Speaker Kristensen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. It's with great pleasure, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, that we acknowledge and recognize your contribution to this session. We want to present to you, on behalf of the Legislature, the staff, and the state of Nebraska, a plaque for the recognition of your two years of service to our Unicameral Legislature. We know that it's not easy to serve in a body that you're not elected to but, as a constitutional officer, you've served with grace. We appreciate your contribution, and we would like to have this plaque given to you as a token of our appreciation. (Applause)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Mr. Speaker, thank you very much, members. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Kristensen, wherever you're hiding, did he go back to his office? It's my pleasure...come up here. You're not getting out of here this easily. Earlier today one of the members of our press asked me how I would describe this session and the only word that could come to my mind, looking back on years in the past, was calm, and a lot of that calm...recognizing that I'm sort of a bubbling caldron of...of undisciplined behavior, a lot of the calmness I think over the last two years has been...should be attributed to our Speaker, who has diligently worked to keep us performing as a unit to provide the system under which each of you is able to attain, to the best of your abilities and the mood of the body at the moment. Senator Kristensen, we really appreciate your services the last two years. This little plaque is a...it's not a sufficient token I think of our appreciation, but it's the best we could do with the state of the state's budget. (Applause)