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time the Legislature was discussing a bill about the extermination of prairie dogs. Someone asked that if they were exterminated how would they be back the next year to be re-exterminated. LaVon very calmly and demurely stated that those little prairie dogs learn to cope somehow, and then she smiled and laughed a little. She has championed the cause for the poor by working on the poverty luncheons, expanding funding for domestic violence programs, and improving early childhood education. She worked hard to try to restore parental rights for noncustodial parents, and she headed a task force on DWI. This task force brought together one of the largest working groups to address DWI that the state has ever seen. Even though Senator Crosby's 0.08 DWI bill did not pass, her efforts with the task force resulted in 13 pieces of legislation being introduced. More importantly, she raised the awareness level about drinking and driving. You all know that LaVon loves the arts. She spearheaded the creation of a Cultural Endowment Fund and, alas, she put her heart and soul into the Sheldon Art Gallery restoration bill. All I can say is, Governor, shame on you for going around stabbing little old lady senators with red pens; for shame. One of the first major issues that Senator Crosby and I, as new senators, faced along with our Lancaster colleagues was the failure of the Commonwealth Savings and Loan. LaVon was an advocate for those individuals who lost money in Commonwealth, as was Bob Crosby. And so I would like to end with this story. A high-powered meeting was taking place in Senator Landis' office regarding Commonwealth. From what I am told, it was pretty much an all-male meeting, except for LaVon. Bob Crosby was starting the meeting and stopped in mid sentence. He looked at LaVon and said, have I told you how beautiful you look today? In LaVon's own way, she smiled and pooh-poohed him. Bob walked over, kissed her, went back to the front of the room and continued with the meeting. It is obvious Bob was never shy about showing his love for you, LaVon. Bob was right. You are a beautiful person, a wonderful friend, and I have loved serving with you. LaVon, would you come forward. (Applause)

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you. Thank you so much and thank you, DiAnna. Yes, DiAnna and I have been friends. We started out in the 1988 campaign...the campaign together. We used to stand out like we were at the principal's office at the forums--sort of shaking and hoping we had the right answers. And I hadn't