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experience, those four years on local government, and the workings of street paving and snow removal and economic development and how city government fits into state government and how the two can work together, another incredible experience. So I draw from some fortunate circumstances with local and state government. What do I want to do as Government Committee Chair? I'd like to look at what we as Nebraskans can do to get a little more attention in the presidential primary. Now, we're one of 50 states, but I've been working on a plan for a couple of years, nationally, that would modify the process to bring smaller states into a greater role in the presidential primary system. And there's a lot of things we can do there. Probably first and foremost, though, is maintaining our election system and the integrity thereof. How important it is that every vote is counted in a fair, impartial manner. We've been doing very well in Nebraska. In fact, other states have looked at what we're doing. And even more so important is how the federal government is coming up with some reform, and a lot of federal dollars are out there. And it's important that we step up to the plate, spend those dollars wisely, not to change something if it isn't broken, but certainly look toward the future. I don't want to go on and on here today, but certainly I come to you and ask for your support for Government Committee Chair. I want to share with you my sense of duty and responsibility and honor, because it is a very important task ahead. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Smith. The Chair would recognize Senator Aguilar.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I would offer my name in nomination for Chair of Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Since 1999, when I was first appointed to the Legislature, I have been a member of this committee, and have a sincere interest in the issues and legislation that come before it. If elected Chairman of this committee, I feel I will be able to contribute to the integrity of the committee and to the body as a whole with leadership that will be consistent and impartial. I believe I have the ability to organize and move an agenda along, while assuring full discussion of the issue at hand. In addition to