

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 5, 2005

The Chair recognizes Senator Johnson.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, you have your light on?

SENATOR JOHNSON: (Microphone malfunction)...I'm sorry, I have turned on the wrong light.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now the family members will understand what I was alluding to. (Laughter) The Chair recognizes Senator Brashear, the distinguished member from the 4th Legislative District in Omaha, Nebraska.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, in keeping with our traditions, I rise to nominate myself to be your Speaker. I want to pause and acknowledge my friendship with and affection for Jeanene and Roger Wehrbein, and I want to salute Senator Wehrbein's excellence of service and character, and thank him for the manner in which we have conducted the discussion heretofore. I will not belabor the point. I tried to think upon and summarize for you what I felt about the position of Speaker. I am sincere when I tell you that I believe it is a servant role. I believe that it is, like all of our individual positions, it is one in which we are serving the people but then, if you should elect me your Speaker, I am here to serve you. I believe I have some experience with that, as Chairman of your Judiciary Committee, a position that I have loved and cherished and learned much in and with which you have given me great help. That degree of help will be absolutely essential to service as Speaker. Beyond that, I simply pledge to do my best to preserve all of our best traditions and to promote any new efficiencies that will allow us to continue our service and, yes, our fun together. And with that, I ask for your vote. Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Brashear. And if I might say so, you looked and sounded very "Speaker-esque" this morning. Are there any further nominations? Seeing none, Senator Cudaback is recognized for a motion.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I move the nominations be closed and a unanimous vote, by acclamation, be cast for Senator Brashear.