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FLOOR DEBATE

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adoption of the motion to proceed to the election of standing committee Chairpersons. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. The motion is adopted. We will start with the election of the Chair of the Agriculture Committee. The floor is now open for nominations. I recognize Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And again, I'd like to congratulate you on your new duties. I would like to submit my name as consideration for the Chairman of the Agriculture Committee. I'd like to thank you for allowing me that privilege the last two years. It was about four years ago that there was consideration to consolidate the Agriculture Committee with some other committees and do away with that. Since that time, it seems like we've had many, many issues that have come before us. We've had a real full slate the last couple years, and again this year there's many issues that we've been working on over the interim, and we would like to continue in this capacity to address these. Our state is...agriculture is the number one industry in the state of Nebraska, a single industry. We provide much of the food for the nation and for even the world, so I think that agriculture is very important to us. We are ranked about the top one to three in almost every commodity production, so it's a very important issue, especially to rural Nebraska, but also to all Nebraska. Several issues that we've been working on this interim is on beginning farmer programs, commodity checkoffs, grain warehousing, and substitution, and many other things, so I would appreciate your consideration and allow me to serve in this capacity for the next two years. Thank you.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Are there further nominations? Seeing none, the Chair recognizes Senator Cudaback.

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

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: You have heard the motion. The motion is to elect Senator Kremer by acclamation. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. Senator Kremer is elected. Congratulations, Senator Kremer. (Applause)