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Senators Heidemann, Pahls, and Howard to serve as the Teller Committee and to come forward at the appropriate time for that purpose. Thank you. Have all submitted ballots who want to submit ballots? Members, if we may have your attention, the result is Senator Mines, 34 votes; Senator Louden, 15. Senator Mines is elected Chair of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. Congratulations, Senator Mines. We will now proceed to the election of Chair of the Business and Labor Committee. Nominations for Chair. Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, thank you, Senator Brashear and members of the body. And, Senator Brashear, I too would like to go on record as congratulating you, and look forward to working with you. I submit my name for Chair of the Business and Labor Committee. I think I have a good understanding of the issues facing this committee. I've spent the last 34 years of my adult life working in the grocery industry; the first 9 of those as an employee, the last 25 as a small business owner. In that 25 years, I've had the opportunity to work side by side with my employees. But I've also had the opportunity during that time to meet the payroll and try to meet the expenses and keep a small business operating. I've finished my fourth year in the Legislature, starting my fifth year today. I think I'm ready for this challenge. There's going to be two very large major issues facing this committee this year, amongst others--the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and the workmen's comp fund, or the insurance program. Both programs, as I stated, have major problems. And I was going to tell you a little bit more about some of those problems, but I'm going to skip it, because Senator Pedersen (phonetic) says we need to go home. And I'm going to kind of go on with that. But there are major problems in both programs. The costs are skyrocketing. We need to find a way to get those costs under control, while preserving the integrity of both programs, while at the same time protecting those individuals who are truly deserving of the benefits, either for unemployment or who are injured in the workplace. But, as you all remember, I had an unemployment bill last year that we spent a lot of time on. It was very...it got controversial. From that I've learned, I don't think we're going to have sustainable and long-term reform without working together. So my goal, if I'm Chair--and I've already been