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FLOOR DEBATE

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the motion to elect Senator Schrock Chair of the Natural Resources Committee by acclamation. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed, nay. It is so done. Senator Schrock, congratulations. We will open nominations for Chair of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I too want to add my congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to place my name in nomination for Chairperson of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. I have served on the committee for the last eight years, and I have had the opportunity to serve as Vice Chair and also Chair. Serving in these capacities have provided me with experience and insight on the many complicated issues and subject matter that are addressed by this committee. The primary responsibility of the Retirement Committee and the Legislature is to ensure adequate and sound retirement systems for Nebraska's public employees. And there are basically five systems that we oversee--the State Patrol, the school employees, the judges, the state, and county employees. And we do have challenges to face this coming session. I believe efficiency and fairness are vital to the effectiveness of our committee system. I pledge to continue to listen, to be approachable, to work with committee members and the public, and to conduct hearings in a fair and impartial manner. I also believe that the committee has a fiscal responsibility to consider the state's budget. I am pleased that the Executive Board approved our request for an actuary, to ensure that we have accurate information provided to our committee. If elected, I will continue to work hard to carry out the responsibilities of this committee, and would be honored to serve as your Chair. And I do want to thank also the committee members that we've worked with in the past, and the staff, for their very good work. Thank you.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Further nominations? Hearing none, Senator Cudaback, for a motion, please.

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