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everybody I talked to thought it was a good idea. And so I will return the microphone to Mr. President, and we will proceed with regard to class representatives. And you can figure out how those were selected and I'll have a few other comments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Speaker Brashear. The class of 2000, Senator Doug Cunningham, would you please come forward. Senator Doug Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, thank you. I was going to tell you some jokes; I had a nice speech prepared. But with the late hour, I'm going to go by Senator Brashear's idea and get this over quick. I do want to just make a couple points. I am the only one in this class, so I don't have anyone to talk about, so. (Laughter) My colleagues that I was elected with, they're all still going to be here after me. So they're here for two more years and I wish them the best of luck. I'll probably come back on this day to watch them two years from now. But I would just tell you, it has been a true privilege and honor for me to serve this body and this state in this manner. I remember my first day. I sat where Senator Howard sits. I remember Deb sat with me, my parents, her parents. And as we come to this body every day, we don't pay much attention. But I remember that day. I remember looking around. Take a minute to look at this place and look at where we work. It's just truly an amazing place to work with, you know...amazing responsibility that we had. But I want to make just three or four very quick points. You all know the sacrifice that we all make to serve here. But it isn't just our sacrifice, it's our family's sacrifice. Deb, I think, I don't know where you're sitting, but I'd like to thank you back there somewhere. If it wouldn't be for Deb and her putting up with the sacrifice, it would have never been possible for me. So thank you, Deb, and all of the rest of the families of this body. We do appreciate it. (Applause) You know, I think that senators, male or female, we all get a big head or maybe an overly inflated ego. But if we're all honest about it, if we're truly honest about it, and you think of all the successes we've had, look at our staff members. We wouldn't have had those successes without them. So I'd like to thank all of you. (Applause) I also was a senator that came to this body with a general mistrust of government, state agencies,