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said, hey, Kermit, what's the good word? Kermit's response was total silence. (Laughter) I could hear him processing this. After a few seconds, he started to stammer around and he was trying to respond what the good word was. I finally said, Kermit, relax, it was just a prelude to conversation. Oh, oh, he says, okay. I recall the late nights working on the floor in the early spring when it's really hot and uncomfortable in the Chamber, my female colleagues, their makeup is running down their faces. The men all have their coats off and are still sweating up a storm. And there's Kermit with his jacket buttoned up, tie on, not a hair out of place, punching the air in one of his trademark speeches. Kermit is a man of integrity. The night he was working to stop Senator Beutler's campaign finance bill will always stand out, in my mind, as one of the Legislature's finest moments. Not because Kermit was trying to stop the bill but because of the character that he showed that night. Senator Schrock hit it right on the head. Senator Beutler realized he did not have the votes to advance the bill. Kermit stated he would assist Senator Beutler by voting to advance a bill that Kermit vehemently opposed. It was truly, as I said that night, the epitome of class. I also said that night that I hope my son was watching because that exchange was a historical example of how we should treat each other here in the Legislature and in general. Kermit is a man of great ideas. I don't always agree with them, but he's got the ideas. Nebraska is a better place because he is here. I hope he continues his life in public service because we need people like him. I have a lot of pride in having served here. But one of the things that I am most proud about is that I can say I served with Kermit Allen Brashear II. Kermit, come forward, we have a plaque for you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Speaker Brashear, would you please come forward? (Applause) Speaker Brashear, you're not lost for words. You may address the crowd if you wish to. Speaker Brashear, you are recognized. And you don't need to be recognized.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body, and guests. I want to continue...well, the Fiscal Office managed to get more than its share. But...(laughter)...but I