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job besides this one, and it will probably give me a little more time to do that at this point. Have some family needs that came up in the last couple of days, and I believe He works in mysterious ways. And to my way I'm backing out, but not without thanking you people who called me personally, even though I did not campaign to you personally, and offered me your votes, I thank you all.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Any further nominations? Motion is that nominations are closed. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. Nominations are closed. Will senators please cast their ballots, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk will collect them. The Chair asks Senator Witek, Senator Day, and Senator Bernard-Stevens to act as tellers in this election. The Chair announces Senator Kristensen as the Chair of the Transportation Committee by a vote of 28 to 21. Congratulations, Senator Kristensen. We now turn to the Urban Affairs Committee. The floor is open for nominations. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, we often talk about a rural-urban split, and I think this committee demonstrates that. I believe that there is many affairs in the rural area as in the urban area, and I was thinking of running for the chairmanship of this committee, but because of my belief in family values, I oppose all affairs, both rural and urban, so I will not offer my name in nomination. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. I'm not sure I can top Senator Chambers' speech there, but I rise in respect to submit the name of Senator Hartnett for consideration and nomination as the Chair of the Urban Affairs Committee. I've served on that committee for two years with Senator Hartnett, and I appreciate his leadership, his fairness, his willingness to meet with diverse parties over sometimes very hotly contested issues and his willingness to bring those people together. I think a good example of that was the natural gas deregulation and his leadership from the very start in an area that was new, in uncharted waters nationally, and has done some things there that has allowed the committee to actually serve as a model for other states. With that, I would appreciate