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united Nebraska. And, with that, I would just like to say I'm no longer a candidate for General Affairs Committee. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Robak. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, Jennie, that was a very good speech and I think it's something we should all listen to and we should all work towards is the unity of the body and I think that's something that probably will happen. I would like to place my name into consideration for Chairperson of the General Affairs Committee. I'm currently in my fifth year in the Legislature. I currently serve as the Vice Chair of the Health Committee and the Ag Committee. I think I have the experience to be the chairperson. I think one thing that a chairperson needs to do is to be able to negotiate whenever there is any problems with any issue and I think this past session Senator Ashford and I were able to work out the gun legislation. I think that was a very controversial issue and that's one thing I think any chairperson needs to be able to do, is to work out issues so that both sides feel like they have...have won. And so I think I have the experience to do that. And, with that, I would just ask for your support as Chairperson of the General Affairs. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Schellpeper's name is placed in nomination. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to put my name for consideration for Chairman of the General Affairs Committee. It took me a long time to make this decision because certainly it's something that one does not take lightly and I want to assure the body I did not make this decision lightly, it...I spent many, many an hour deciding, (a), what was in the best interests of my myself but also what was in the best interests of my constituency, the district, and whether or not I would really be able to serve this body in a way that the body deserves to be served by its members. And I came to the conclusion that I did want to run for the General Affairs Committee. I think the thing that convinced me the most that I wanted to run is I believe that the Chairman of the General Affairs Committee is very important, that the people that come before that committee with the issues, whether it be bingo or pickle or gambling or horse racing or the other myriad of issues that come before that particular committee, that they feel that