

people whom you represent. The Indians of the State of Nebraska are scattered clear across the state. They are scattered from the Rosebud, up in northwestern Nebraska, down along the northern border of Nebraska, but there are a large Indian population in the urban areas, Omaha principally being the largest population area, and a sizeable number of native Americans here in the City of Lincoln. There isn't any way in the world that the director of the commission can operate without some supporting staff. We have a new director. She's operated very efficiently, she's been very dedicated, she has done a number of things which I think merit mentioning. Just one thing, we talk a lot about economic development and we have spent a lot of money for economic development. But for the first time ever, I believe, the National Indian Education Association Conference will be held in Omaha in 1991. That will bring more than a million dollars estimated of new money into the City of Omaha just for that single conference. That demonstrates, I think, one of the reasons why you need an alert, aggressive, dedicated director. You need to fund the commission members adequately so they can attend the meetings and participate in the needs of their tribal members. Last but not least I want to say that we have among the Indian population, as Senator Chambers pointed out, some very serious problems with unemployment,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...a certain amount of problems with diabetes, alcoholism, all of those areas need the attention of the commission members. I know there are some reasons, Senator Warner will give them to you, as to why they were funded at this level. I believe it is important that we provide the additional \$23,000 so that the commission can function effectively. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Warner. (Gavel.) Order in the Chamber, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to make some general remarks that aren't directed at this amendment, then I will comment on this amendment separately. I say that because I don't want anyone to confuse what I am going to say initially with those remarks being directed at this amendment because they, quite frankly, flatly are not, they are about the budget in total. I got to thinking last night that maybe the Appropriations Committee, well at