

April 5, 1979

LB 101

I think that we should at this time make this change. If we make this change we can prevent tremendous duplication. We can provide for these individuals an opportunity to bring together their various problems and I think not only will it be much more economical for the state in the long run but I think it will help these individuals solve their problems by using their united voices and their united power, unified action and so forth to explain the problems to the Legislature, to explain their problems to the society in general and to ask and propose those types of solutions. For that reason I very seriously and sincerely offer this amendment. I think in the long run it will be a preferable amendment. Other states have adopted this sort of approach, states like Minnesota which has been in the forefront of these areas and for that reason I make this amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: I have the lights on for Senators Labeledz, Johnson, Kahle and Chambers and I don't know how many want to speak to Senator Newell's amendment. Senator Labeledz, do you...?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, I don't know whether or not Senator Newell will give me an answer on this but, Senator Newell, on the Commission on the Status of Women and then we have the Commission on Indian Affairs, would you say that these two commissions could be put together?

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Senator Labeledz, the difficulty with all these commissions and we will talk if you like, if the question is related to Senator Haberman's bill.

SENATOR LABEDZ: No, it is not. It is related to your amendment because you are taking the deaf people, the blind, the disabled and you are trying to put them into one group. What I am trying to say it is like putting the Commission on the Status of Women with the Commission on Indian Affairs or the Commission on Aging with the Commission on Indian Affairs. You just can't group commissions together because you want them all under one umbrella. Helen Keller once said and thank you, Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Wait a minute, I never answered anything.

SENATOR LABEDZ: That is quite all right.

SENATOR NEWELL: I never even talked.