

rather that the Legislature do it as we did in the case of city council members and school board members, recognize the issue. And, Senator Lynch, the reason I want these matters into the record is to make it clear that when the discussion was had before the Legislature, none of these matters were left out. All of these issues were before the Legislature, and whatever decision is made, it was made with these matters before it, with this information a matter of record, an appeal made on the basis of why federal courts have imposed district elections, the pointing out that a federal judge did impose district elections in Nebraska already, so that if it comes to that, then the step can be taken without having to prove all of those things even though they don't have to be proved. The point I'm making is this. When we have farmers speaking, it goes without saying by members on the floor that farmers are in a position to understand the problems faced by farmers. But when I who have been black 51 years will indicate that there are problems and situations we face that are not addressed by white people, even when they are well-intentioned, that cannot be accepted, but the empirical evidence is out there for anybody to see, that we need representation, that when representation is denied, a very substantial means by which problems can be addressed has been withheld and other methods will be seized by people to change their condition. And many times these methods don't immediately bring about a change but it might give the impression and the feeling to people who otherwise are helpless and voiceless that they are doing something that is going to make a change.

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I hope that the Legislature will recognize the fact that in over 70 counties in this state where they are homogeneous and all the people are white, they have district elections in order that all elements of the county can be represented. But in the largest county in the state where the largest minority population lives and obviously has tremendous problems that are not being addressed, I'm told there should not be district elections because at large takes care of this situation whereas at large does not take care of the situation in the majority of counties in this state. It is a difficult row that I have to hoe.

PRESIDENT: Time.