

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There is only one provision in the U.S. Constitution which the Constitution, itself, said could not be amended, and if you read Article V, it says, that should the Constitution be amended in any fashion before 1808, Article II, Section 9 cannot be amended, and Article II, Section 9 is the one that guarantees the importation of my people to be slaves. And slaves helped build this country. They dug precious metals from the ground. They cultivated crops. They did every manner of menial and skilled work without one dime in compensation, not one red cent in compensation. And while reparations are given to the Japanese-Americans who were improperly incarcerated by this country during the war, there has never been a delivery on the promise made to black people that with the ending of slavery we would be given the traditional 40 acres and a mule. Nobody has been treated consistently in this country with the disdain and the injustice that my people have been treated. So it is my responsibility when these types of measures come before us to speak and offer some perspective and show that one of the problems of having what they call a pluralistic society is that there will be those who will remind this country and its representatives of those practices and activities of which it definitely should not be proud and whose remnants it should try to rectify but which it does not.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any further discussion? Did you wish to speak again, Senator Chambers. Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, I was going to offer an amendment but I don't think I will do that, and I will tell you the way I had intended to amend this resolution. In the fourth whereas, which says, "Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court interprets and construes the United States Constitution", I was going to add words to the effect, "and in present times has interpreted and construed the Constitution so as to deprive black people of rights and privileges guaranteed by that Constitution." But I won't offer it as an amendment because Senator Kristensen is as serious as a heart attack about his resolution, and I can understand that. Had this country been to me what it has been to white people, I probably would have added ten more whereas glorifying the country, the government, the flag, and the Constitution. But think about it a minute. If I and my people are, indeed, citizens of the