

talk about it. And I'm going to raise the issue again and again and again. And if that bill, that pernicious bill is advanced to the Legislature, you're going to hear from me again on that bill and I'm going to oppose it. A point has to be reached where we don't accept scrapes and leavings from the master's table. There cannot be an afterthought and we're just picked up in a token manner, when we are patronized, when we are demeaned, when we are disrespected. A change has to occur, this worm has to turn, and this amendment that I'm offering goes in that direction.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I take the constitution very, very seriously. When I observe attempts on the floor of this Legislature to enact laws that would take away people's civil rights and civil liberties, I know that were it not for the protection of the constitution, the state, to some extent, but the federal Constitution, slavery would be reinvented, sweatshops, they're trying to bring them back now. What few rights women have achieved would be taken away as they are being eroded now. We're supposed to have forgotten, our attention has been averted enough, we're supposed to have been placated to the point where everything can now be turned back to the way it was and we're not to say anything. Maybe others won't, I shall again and again and again.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Vrtiska, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I appreciate Senator Chambers explaining and I did, I guess, in a sense, make light of his amendment that he placed out. I'm glad you explained it to me. But I just want to, I just have one thing to say. I was acting Chair of Exec Board when that commission was...and I have to tell you, it's probably one of the darkest moments of my life when I found out that, in the final analysis, that exactly what Senator Chambers talked about has happened. The purpose, the reason there was...that those were not included was there were no names submitted to my office during that process. And I guess I, I could apologize from now to the end of time and not make any difference because realistically it should have been my position, and perhaps the position of other members of the committee, to recognize exactly