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these halls like I see so many of my colleagues, especially some of my female colleagues, and you know why they do that? Because they are aware of the subordinate position they have around here. And for people to pretend it is not so is to deliberately and intentionally to blind oneself to the reality. I won't be blind to it, and that's why so many of you who might stand up today and speak as you are will come to me at another time and say, Ernie, I need some help, because you know I'm realistic, and I will not back away from the situation. And it's why I don't ask anybody in this Legislature to give me anything. People think that a vote somehow entitles to them...entitles them to some kind of consideration. I know that there is discrimination against women in this state and in this Legislature. Look at the organization how it went. You all know it. You've talked to me about it but you forgot, huh? Well, I don't forget, and when these issues come up, I'm going to deal with them, not just today, but day after day after day. Why has discrimination persisted and shown itself to be so unyielding for so many decades and even generations? Because those who are discriminated against are fearful of saying anything against it. They say, if I've got so little now, if I say anything, they will take that from me, and I will have even less, not realizing that if they stand up and speak against it, they can bring it to an end. Bullies bully you, only as long as they feel you won't fight back. If the women in this Legislature did like women in other states and formed a caucus, they would get a lot more done because they would realize we are dealing with power here, and you have no power because you allow it to be dissipated and taken from you, and they tell you somehow you're doing wrong if you come together as women around the issues that are of concern to you. They say, don't...don't divide the Legislature like that. Well, they've got, the men, white men, they've got every thing they want. That's why they can be so calm about it and say, well now, let's not make insurance companies do this because they've got everything they need. Let's not mess with the employers here because they get a higher rate...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...of pay than you do. Let's not mess with what they do in terms of retirement benefits because they get