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LB 179, 835

they're not representing your interests; they're with the big packers, with the processors; they're getting big subsidies themselves; they don't have anything in common with you. And here I am, from the city, speaking out for the rural interests. Well, we have a bill, LB 835, coming up, and we'll get to it today. I've spoken for that bill in committee, I've spoken for it on the floor. And when you read the language of the bill it doesn't meet the standard of legislating that I think we ought to meet. But I was bending to try to help a segment of the society that I felt was worthy. They need to get up and do this more on their own, get their own lawyers to read that legislation and properly draft it; go to those meetings with these packers, who are going to try to intimidate people, and not let the packers intimidate, but wind up being intimidated, and sit there not willing to say much because they don't want to get their heads snapped off. And I say it here, that's what I do, and that's what I've done. And I've seen farm area senators not do it. I've seen them swallow spit. But the big interests always are represented on this floor, and they're represented very, very strenuously. The ones who truly are most in need are the ones who get short-shrift all of the time--poor women, sick women, black women. I'm not just offended about the way we discussed dealing with those with mental disabilities. I'm smarting about the way we dealt with Senator Schimek's bill the other day, the Women's Medical or Health Initiative. That vote offended me so deeply that I didn't trust myself to speak about it after it was over. I'm reading every day and I'm going to collect these articles and share them with you all. Women get short-shrift when they go to prison, so that's at the bottom of the scale. But these better off women, the ones who work with the corporations, the professional women are now begging that something be done to cut the gap between their wages and those of similarly situated white men. I saw where Clinton, the other day, was talking about doing something to narrow that gap. The problems are there, and we got women in this Legislature who will sit up and...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...repeat what these men say about women getting favored treatment, and they're not entitled to this. Well, brothers and sisters, being a member of a race that was