

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 12, 1999

served in the past and is presently on the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board. Her activities that she has been involved with that certainly qualify her for this appointment as she has been involved in the Nebraska Ground Water Foundation Organization, been very active in that. She is a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the committee voted 7 to 0 for her confirmation. There was one member absent.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. We are now open for discussion on the confirmation report. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, because I'm going to vote yes on this confirmation, there are a couple of comments I'm constrained to make on this issue of sexism and chauvinism. There are matters which have to constantly be brought to the public's attention and to the attention of lawmakers. When issues which reek of injustice are allowed to sit without being discussed, they can only become worse. There are many things we all know but would rather not hear; many things that must be confronted that we'd rather not talk about. But as long as the problem exists, I'm going to talk about them. I'm going to attack them. I'll do everything within my power to solve them; and if the entire problem cannot be totally solved at one fell swoop, I will just have to engage in incremental action and hope that over a period of time enough momentum will be built up to bring about a just and equitable situation. I'm still smarting, as you might be able to gather, from that vote against the Women's Health Initiative. I have supported various other pieces of legislation; but if that \$147,000 is too much for this body, if concern for the health of women is such a low item on our priority list, I've got to start looking with a much more jaundiced eye at other bills and programs that are going to be brought to us. I had told Senator Wehrbein last week that when he brings up his bill that will open up the area of that notorious corporate welfare bill, known as LB 775, I would not take the opportunity through his bill to attack that program frontally in view of what the Legislature has been doing. I have to tell Senator Wehrbein I don't feel that way anymore and I'm going to look at the program he wants to develop. You see, when a category of people who have identifiable and known problems cannot be given consideration on this floor, why should I, who has a deep concern about that