

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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Why is it that those who don't suffer a situation are always going to arrogate to themselves the right to say, I know better than you do what you need? I have always been paternalistic.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Look how we took care of the Native Americans. Look how we took care of the Latinos. Look how we enslaved the black people. Oh, we have a great record of lecturing other people and dictating to them how they are to live, yet our own children are killing us, they're committing suicide, they're going insane. So I don't think some of these arrogant white people have a very good record based on understanding others' problems and coming up with solutions. This is a very serious matter and I tried to stay out of it, because I'm about at my wit's end. But I'm going to vote for this bill, and were I able to vote ten times, that's how many times I would vote for it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I, too, stand in support of LB 352. I...and many good things have been said this morning, and I'm not able to express it as eloquently as Senator Lynch and Senator Chambers. But I do believe that blind people are productive and that this would certainly give them a better opportunity and another opportunity to become even more independent. I looked back on the bill summary or the committee, and I found out that when the bill was introduced there was no one that came to oppose the bill. There were a number of people proposed...standing in support of the bill. I disagree very much with Senator Tyson when he said, if it is not broken, don't fix it, because I believe it is broken. I do believe that it is time that we give this group of people, the blind people, another opportunity to become more independent. I feel very much...I feel very strongly that Health and Human Services is much too large. I did not support that merger. I do not believe that it is serving the people, many of the people that really need to be served, because many groups and many individuals get lost in the system. I believe it's important that we give the blind people