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to get sick. Why weren't they smart enough, Senator Mines, to put some money aside? Who in here is going to speak out for old people before this session is over? And if I stand up and say about those old people what you all show in your attitude toward poor people, am I a bad fellow? Did I make them old? Did I give them a virus? Have I caused them to be ill? Have I taken one thing from them? Then why is it my responsibility to take care of your old folks? There are more old folks with your complexion than mine. That's why I say your old folks. Why do your old folks come to me, and I can show you the letters...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...if you don't believe it, asking me to work a miracle? And their senator won't even take their call. That's what I have to contend with. So I know there are poor people all over this state, and I know there are people who are not making it in every part of this state, and I take my responsibility seriously. All I have to work with here is my voice, my determination, and my vote. Now Senator Beutler may be ready to throw in the towel on this particular bill, but I assure you we're going to discuss things at great length throughout the rest of the session, and there will be times when I'll refer back to this bill, regardless of whether they bracket it at this point or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Oh, since he's not paying...oh, he's paying attention now.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I have been painted by Senator Chambers as one that appears not to care about those people that are among our poorest. I have appeared to be insensitive and I can tell you that's not the case. Senator Chambers also paints people that don't agree with his position with a single brush--we have forgotten what it's like to be poor. Senator Chambers knows nothing of me. Senator Chambers and I have never had this discussion. Otherwise, he would understand that I do remember what it's like for the poor. I have lived among the poor and I have made minimum wage. And I'll tell you what, when I wasn't making enough money I worked two jobs. Senator Dwite Pedersen, I appreciate your comments.