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April 30, 2003 LB 407

please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Chambers' amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment was adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with the second component, FA1341. (Legislative Journal page 1534.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on your FA1341.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is the portion that would deal with the Women's Commission. I am in favor of anything that is going to advance the causes that relate to the welfare of women in this society, so I'm going to support this amendment, this part of the amendment. The total amount would be \$380,000, because that covers a two-year period. Under the committee amendment, all funding for the commission would be eradicated. I hope that the body will accept this amendment, this part of the amendment. Because this was coming up, it wasn't necessary for me to give my periodic comments while those offerings to the Legislature were made for confirming people to various positions. I still see a lot that is discriminatory toward women in this society. A commission like this focuses attention on the ongoing problems. The fact that women comprise more than 50 percent of the population does not, in and of itself, mean that as a whole or individually women are able to deal with all of the problems that confront females in this society. There is a conditioning process that gets underway as soon as a girl child is born into the world. There is a continuation in preschool, elementary school, junior high, senior high, university, post-university, and throughout the lives of women in the world. Emphasis has been put on the plight of women in other countries whose governments America does not approve of, but many of the criticisms launched against the plight of women in those countries could be applied to the conditions of women in this country. Why is it remarkable, so remarkable that it merits a newspaper story or a television feature, when a woman becomes CEO of a company when women comprise more than 50 percent of the population? It would seem