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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the first thing I want to point out is that the former Auditor was going to make inappropriate political use of senators' telephone records and perhaps even other information, so the Legislature, in protecting the prerogatives of the senators to keep confidential certain phone communications and numbers, erected legislative protection, but in no way were any of the duties of the Auditor diminished. So that's a red flag and a red herring, that's what I meant to say, that is being drawn across the path of this discussion. I'm going to listen to the debate, but something else is troubling me this morning. I've told you all time and time again how tired I am of females being dismissed and disrespected in this state. The Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Department is a woman. She had instructed an individual, a man named DeLiberty, that when job applications were being considered for a particular position information had come in that the man he was looking at, named McGuire, had a conviction so check it out, and if there's a conviction don't offer the job, and if the offer has been made withdraw it. This scoundrel has no respect for Ms. Montanez, and maybe it's her last name, maybe her ethnicity. He deliberately ignored and then violated state policy and her specific instructions; found out that there was in fact a conviction; that on the man's application, when it asked had he been convicted of any violation of the law other a traffic violation, a minor one, he checked no. When he was interviewed, he didn't bring up the conviction. But this DeLiberty knew about it when he extended anyway the job application offer after his boss told him don't do that. When that kind of insubordination and disobedience is engaged in, that person should be fired. Now, the Governor defended the director in ordering that job offer to be withdrawn. I called her, when I became aware of what was going on, and she didn't know that this man, this DeLiberty, had discovered a conviction and went ahead and offered despite it. When she found out, she called me back within three to five minutes and said, that job offer is going to be withdrawn; I knew nothing about this conviction and this DeLiberty had been instructed not to make an offer if there was a conviction. Because she's a woman, I'm sure, is what is behind it. This man, DeLiberty, who is an underling,