

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

April 6, 2005

LB 689A

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Aguilar. The point that was just made indicates why there needs to be another point of view present and expressed. If white people never have exposure to any other point of view, they can readily think that whatever they believe is right, whatever way they envision the world is the way the world actually is. So to keep white children from having the opportunity to hear another point of view, to interact with other children of their own age, will cause them to grow up and be as intolerant and backward an adult society as the one that I and Senator Aguilar must deal with. During the worst days of segregation, I was emphasizing that I want white children to get the best of educations so that my children, when they grow up, will have more intelligent white people to deal with than the ones I'm dealing with. And white people don't want to hear that. These white children grow up in a state like Nebraska, and they go someplace else, and they're like lost balls in high weeds. They stick out like an extra thumb. They're being cheated. And how do they know they're cheated? They don't have a standard by which to judge anything. They hear racial slurs. They see other cultures ridiculed and put down. Then they might read in the paper, when we're talking about the kind of issues Senator Aguilar raised, where the children of immigrants in this state, who have lived here, cannot go to the university...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...paying the same tuition as other in-state students. Why? Because some silly jackass will say, well, if students...American students in Iowa want to come over here, they can't pay the same amount. Well, they have a white university in Iowa where they can attend and pay in-state tuition. These children cannot do that. They don't have those alternatives. And you all are not going to say anything about it. The few who will are slapped in the face. And the issue will not even be brought on this floor to discuss. These children and their parents are all right to be out there in the fields, picking cotton, toting that barge, lifting that bale for white people, but they don't have a place in the classroom. And you wonder why those of us such as myself feel the way we do.