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

February 7, 2006 LB 874

receive affirmation from white people, confirmation from white people, approval of white people that I'm all right. I don't need them to tell me anything about me. They don't know me. They don't know anything about me. You may have read a thousand articles that are written about me, and you still don't know me, and you still don't know anything about me, because white people live on the surface, and if a lot of words have been written, they assume that there must have been a lot of information in But there's not. You all don't even care enough to be aware of what we as black people or other nonwhite people are So I'm going to give you a little discomfort if I can. But here's where the difference comes in. If you treat me decently, I'll treat you decently. You all are the ones who carry grudges. We don't go out and blow up a church and kill little white children because we don't like what some white We're not the ones who go burn crosses politician said. people's yard because we think they should not live in a certain house. We don't throw bricks through their windows. I saw on a couple of occasions where Bob Gibson was being honored and recognized. They even named a little stretch of street after him in Omaha. And when he moved into a white neighborhood, the white people threw paint on his house and threw toilet paper the trees and intimidated his children, in Omaha, Nebraska. And you all want to tell me there is no racism? Bob Boozer, who was an All-American at Kansas University, made the United States Olympic Team, wearing red, white, and blue Uncle Sam clothes for this country, played honorably as a professional basketball player, and in Omaha they refused to sell him a house because it was in a neighborhood where white people lived and he was not fit to live there. This is what happens to us. You all don't know about it, and you don't care. And you think I'm going to come around here like you all and sit and drink coffee and play like everything is all right, rub elbows with these lobbyists, then you're going to bring trashy legislation to me and think I should go along with it because you go along with it, because some lobbyist you like tells you he needs this? Well, you've got another think coming, and you need to hear it from me. Not like you all, skulking around in the halls, whispering behind my hand, pretending I'm one thing and I'm something else, scared to say what I got on my mind. I don't go to any of you all and say, I'm scared to do this; will you do it? And you know where