

so far as to say all that exist in this state, the helping has, in fact, become the hurting, and they would do better as advocates without a reliance, without a dependence on government or other taxpayer's dollar. I am going to oppose the Chambers amendment and I will say also I support retrocession. I voted for it. I intend to continue voting for it because that is another act, in my opinion, of somebody saying we want to do things ourselves. I say let them. Let individuals be equal. Let them have the same rights. Let them not be dependent and, yes, there is poverty out there. We are never going to eliminate all poverty. Yes, there is discrimination. You are never going to eliminate all of that.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: But long term, I think the record would have to show you have not helped different groups, you have hurt them by treating them as nonequals. I think the greatest proof of this, if I were going to pick an area, are black athletes. For many years we kept not allowing them to participate in the same sports. Once given even the opportunity to compete, they far exceeded and excelled most others. I would urge you not to support the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, members of the legislative body. I am proud to be able to stand and support this amendment. I am proud to put my belief on the line and vote for what I think is right. Senator DeCamp seems to think that the agencies in question, and there are several in a row, have not provided help or assistance and that the groups are worse off now than they were to begin with. The opposite is true, Senator DeCamp. All of the groups have seen some improvement and there is a great deal more that can and should be done. It is not government telling them what to do. It is the individuals themselves planning programs. It is a mechanism to be of assistance. If we had all started from the same basis, then we could automatically do away with all of the agencies. Have you forgotten? We did not start from the same basis. Time was when there were no women in this Legislature. Some of you are old enough to remember when I served my first term as the one woman in this Legislature. Some of you can remember, that doesn't mean it is good or bad. It does mean