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LB 101

in order to avoid the continual development of commissions, is to maybe rename this commission, expand its membership and suggest a number of other groups that might be part of it. What would you say to a proposal that said that we would have a commission on the physically disabled or, I hate to use the word handicapped, but something like that which included the deaf, maybe those who are blind and other physically disabled individuals, not... Think for a second before you respond. I don't want you to automatically say no before you have contemplated this.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I can automatically say no without hesitating. I believe Senator Haberman had a bill that was discussed in committee and on the floor regarding taking all of the commissions in board and putting them into one and I disapproved of that because we have the blind, the disabled, the deaf and their needs and wants, as I said once before are entirely different than the Commission on Aging, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Mexican-American Commission, the Commission on Indian Affairs, Commission on the Status of Women, Equal Opportunity....

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Labeledz, this is my five minutes. Let me make this point. I serve as the chairman of the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee in which that bill was heard.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Yes.

SENATOR NEWELL: And I did not favor the bill and I voted against the bill but you know Senator Haberman was not all wrong in my opinion by offering that piece of legislation. In fact, where I think Senator Haberman made his biggest mistake is that he tried to throw too many diverse groups into one bill and I think that is exactly the downfall of Senator Haberman's proposal and I am not proposing to undo something. I am saying, let's avoid a mistake before we get started. Now in many states in the union, Senator Labeledz, please, I am trying to convince you first, then the rest of the body but in the process of trying to convince you I am trying to get the attention of some of the others in the body, hope that they will listen and be concerned. A number of states like Minnesota have adopted what they call the Commission on the Handicapped and that commission has multiple types of individuals who have physical disabilities and in the process they are able to save and utilize more dollars, coordinate programs and so