

April 5, 1979

LB 101

situations that pertain exclusively to females, so I am opposed to Senator Newell's amendment. It is totally impractical. It is unworkable even from a strictly technical standpoint. I wish that he would withdraw it because there is no way, Senator Newell, that your amendment could be attached to this bill as it stands now and make any kind of sense at all. It would be what the philosophers call unintelligible.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, once again we go through the same ritual that we find ourselves so frequently involved in. We can spend millions and millions of dollars for any kind of a questionable practice or position or department or agency that gets itself sequestered into the system. I am not one for establishment of new commissions or new agencies and I think that is a matter of record, that we perpetuate those agencies which have done no visible good in ten or twenty years but because we do not understand the particular problem of an individual who might be handicapped, we find it convenient to ignore that problem. It is a terrible tragedy to be deaf or to be blind but it is a greater tragedy to have ears and not be able to hear and to have eyes and not be able to see. Some of my good friends here who can see all the many meritorious reasons why we should spend \$600,000,000 for God only knows what, are finding all kind of reasons why we should not do this for the handicapped who happen to be deaf. I do not know what it is like to be deaf but I know friends who are deaf and I know that we are going to waste some money here and we are going to be criticized for it before this session is over. But I would far rather be criticized for wasting the money we might waste which I don't think will be wasted in support of LB 101 which Senator Labeledz has sponsored than to go away from here and say we could not do this. I will guarantee you that I can find \$200,000 an hour that we can save on this floor for the balance of the twenty-nine days we are in session to fund this program and I can guarantee you also that some of the people who are questioning the program will come screaming out of the woodwork as to why their pet project ought to be defended. You are not going to find the handicapped come forward very often and ask for help. I would hope that we would advance the bill, that we would not listen to those individuals who say we can't do this and when one of your constituents, if it happens,