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want to address that question and perhaps we might want to let state government play a significant role in solving that problem. Senator Marsh, with her amendment, offers us an opportunity to say that we want to go beyond changing language in the statutes. We want to actually try in the area of employment to provide equal opportunity. I would hope that this Legislature might be willing to actually try and do something beyond symbolic actions to deal with race discrimination and sex discrimination, so I would support Senator Marsh's amendment.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President and members of the body, I also rise to support the Marsh amendment and really wish to make one point. Senator Clark has stated that a person might unintentionally do this and if they do therefore they shouldn't be liable or subject to the existing amendment. Well let me point out, and I'm not an attorney, but ignorance of the law is no excuse. Just because you don't understand the law, or purport not to understand the law does not mean that you are any less guilty than you would be if you did fully understand it. If I get in my automobile today and run over somebody, even though it's accidentally, I still am liable. I may be found guilty of homicide, or I may be found guilty of a lesser offense. I didn't intentionally mean to run over this person, but nevertheless that person is just as dead as if I meant to do it intentionally. Now this may be a not completely fair analogy because certainly the one penalty, the one crime is more severe than the other, but I think the analogy does hold water, because I think whether or not a person does something intentionally that breaks the law, or does something that unintentionally breaks the law, we understand what the laws are, and when you have laws that are on the books that need to be enforced, and the public understands those laws, so to make the case that a person is going to break the law and didn't mean to do so, does not serve to help that person that's been discriminated against. It doesn't make that any less painful to that person. So I think the comments Senator Clark makes is a faulty comparison. I rise to support Senator Marsh and I think the amendment should be passed.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, at the time this hearing was held there was an individual there that made some comments with reference to