

withdrawn as well.

SENATOR LAMB: The motion is withdrawn. The next motion, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to amend the Beutler-Vickers amendment by adding back in the elimination of funding for the Commission on the Status of Women. (See page 2537 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, I have withdrawn the first two amendments. I cared very deeply about both but felt that under the time constraints and budget constraints perhaps we would have to do without. But on this one I would ask that you do consider it and you will hopefully vote for it. The Commission on the Status of Women, as I have passed out in a handout to you, was established now some 22 years ago. This commission has served the state well providing for leadership across the State of Nebraska to lift the potentials of our women in the state. As we have talked before about the different advocacy agencies, both for the Indian-Americans and Mexican-Americans and we failed on both of those, I would hope that we would reconsider our action and vote for the advocacy agency for the women of the State of Nebraska. The Commission on the Status of Women is one that is very active. It goes far beyond the money that we invest in it and brings in a great number of volunteers who are active across this state, women who care very deeply about one another and help each other to achieve new heights of success that they would not otherwise be able to reach because of the disadvantages they face. As we know in our state and nation, we still pay women less than we do men and we still don't provide the same sort of opportunities to women as we do to men. We still have a second class citizenship for the women of our state and nation and because of that we must recognize the need for the helping hand of this commission to further advance their equality. We don't have an Equal Rights Amendment. We don't have all the different things that they have hoped and dreamed about, but we do have a number of programs that have helped women in this state and I think one of the big reasons we are successful in this area is having a Commission on the Status of Women which is very active and vital. We have one of the best commissions in the country, I am sure of that and it has been able to spring forth with many different good