

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I intend to not try to hold this bill up on General File. But I feel cut, very deeply, by a vote that was taken against the Indians and against the Mexicans this morning. I was especially concerned when I saw the number of people who not only made the motion to put money into the Women's Commission but voted for it voting against this one. I think it was unconscionable, I think it was inexcusable, and I think it was racist. I can't vote for this budget bill. The Women's Commission was voted for because it is perceived as a white operation for white women, and the white people in this Legislature can relate to them. I'm going to tell you what some of these farmers are doing. They are hiring Mexicans knowing that they don't have documents. And after they work them for slave wages in the first place, they don't pay them, I'm talking about Nebraska, then they tell them, when the Mexicans try to get their money, go talk to somebody and I'll talk to immigration. You all know this is happening in this state. It is illegal, it is unconscionable. But it is being done because it benefits the farmers. I have not had one of you come to me to ask me will I support farm issues. When I see people hurting, if there is something I can do with my vote to help them, I will help them. I'm not selective like the rest of you, or some of you. Twenty of you made a proper vote, and those 20 I'm not talking about in connection with this. I'm aware of the propriety of those votes. But the selectivity that occurs in this body is distressing. I'm on a bill now, 999, to help keep a roof over the heads of farmers, and some of the people who are going to vote for that denied these people, who don't even have what the farmers have, a symbolic contact with the government by which they can get some kind of consideration. That is even taken away. We will talk about the dislocations that occur with reference to farmers who lose their land. But the appeal, primarily, is based on the fact that they are white farmers. These are white people's programs that white people are supporting. We are not concerned about people who hurt and have problems, or we would treat all those who hurt the same way. These white women can put on their finery and go talk to the corporate heads. They can pick upper middle class and middle class white women to talk to the white people in this Legislature. And what is the response? You give them what they ask for, and you set rules that only the white people can comply with. You say