

certainly do deserve money in comparison to what we're doing on the budget bills on construction, capital construction. We're talking about human beings. We're talking about people that need help and, as I say, the Commission on the Status of Women have done an excellent job. I worked with them when I was with Senator Zorinsky in the mayor's office. I know the work they've done. I know they deserve our help, but we certainly can't sit here and choose between three commissions when they're all equally important to all of us. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Senator Hoagland, please.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I'm going to support the committee amendments, colleagues, and I'd ask you to do the same for two basic reasons. Now, number one, I'm also going to oppose the bill, by the way, once it's amended. Whether it's amended with the committee amendments or not, I'm going to oppose the bill, but I don't think that two wrongs make a right and I think that by adopting the committee amendments we can take the Commission on Status of Women out of the bill completely so the threat to that commission is over and I think we should do that and I think we should do that basically for two important reasons. As Senator Abboud indicated, the Commission on Status of Women is still functioning. They have undertaken fund raising operations over the last 12 months, they are an ongoing organization. Their constituency has shown an interest in continuing their operations with private funds. If they are willing to do that, why I think the least we can do is leave the enabling legislation on the books so they can continue to do that. Secondly, we decided late last week that we were going to fund them partially with state funds. You will recall Senator Landis had an amendment to the main budget bill to put \$80,000 approximately of General Funds into the Commission on Status of Women operations for the next fiscal year. So I suggest that today we remain consistent with the decision that we made last week. We've decided to fund them once again with state funds. Let's not now, after that decision has been made, threaten the commission with the repeal of the enabling legislation. Now, I concur that all the commissions ought to be treated the same and I will not support the bill in either form. But I don't think it makes sense to jeopardize the enabling legislation of the Commission on Status of Women in an effort to also save the