

against these commissions, has been able to say that they do harmful things, or that what they do is not good. They put over \$1 million into the budget yesterday. I assist, we did it. Then we come to these agencies which are not requiring a great burden on the budget, which will help groups that we know need help because of the way they have been treated, not just by individuals but by the government itself and the government's representatives. So in a sense what the government is trying to do, through this action by the Legislature in retaining these commissions, is to not only make up for some of the wrong that has been done in the past, but to try to prevent it from reoccurring, prevent its reoccurring and to try to eradicate some of those institutionalized degradations that these groups encounter. I hope that the amendments of the three gentlemen will be soundly defeated.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I hope that some of those who voted, and spoke for programs to benefit those that they see as being their kind in their district who need help, will vote for these commissions. This is not a panacea. These commissions were created as cripples. They never were given what was needed to solve all of the problems that have to be faced. But there is a symbolism which is very important. And that symbol, once having been given to the public as an indication of the policy of this state, to help those who need help and cannot help themselves, it should not now be withdrawn. I'm opposed to this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Richard Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON: Mr. President, members, I rise to support this amendment. I think it's a good amendment. I heard concerns where some say well if we fund one we should fund the other. You've got your chance now to take the funding out. I was real concerned yesterday when we started putting lots of money back into the budget above what the Appropriations Committee sent out, almost \$2 million if my figures are right. I don't know what is happening on the floor compared to last session, but I see an overwhelming support to put money back into the budget for a number of things. You would think that the economy was really out and going out there. And I don't see it. But anyway according to the votes on this floor it sounds like we are ready to go, and that the economy is really going to pick up. But I don't see that. And I can see a tax increase, and my people are saying we don't want no tax increase. I don't