

human needs. We have, because of the needs of agricultural students, put money in the Curtis program. We have responded to the needs of the mentally retarded by putting money in for mental retardation programs. I would suggest to you that we've come very close this morning to putting money in the farmers in transition program, a program that already has \$1 million in it. But in the event that there are a few more rural senators who want to vote for that, that amendment too could probably get on. That amendment failed because there...the rural interests were not uniform in their support of that provision. But what has been happening, in the last couple of days, is a response to human needs. And with respect to the groups that these commissions support, there can be no stronger case for human need. The education level, generally, the economic well-being of these groups is demonstrably lower than the normal family or individual in the State of Nebraska. There are a number of encumbrances that stand in the way of these groups and the same level of prosperity and well-being that most Nebraskans enjoy. It is consistent, with the principle of the last two days, to support these commissions because we have been responding to what we know to be well documented cases of human need, and that is what these commissions address. I support them and oppose the Hefner amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh. Senator Haberman is next.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President. I don't expect a miracle. I don't expect all of us to overnight suddenly be sensitive to the needs of those we represent but I could wish that this body would listen this morning, listen to the cries of those who have suffered discrimination and that includes women, that includes minorities. I will be among the very first to say, let's do away with the commissions when we are all on an equal footing. I still remember my first four sessions of this legislative body when I was the one woman serving in the body. Then Senator Labedz was appointed and won election in her own name. Finally, a third senator was appointed, Senator Maxey, who was the first black woman to serve in this body. The body listened with a little different ear, when there were three women serving, hearing concerns of women from three perspectives. Senator Maxey worked very hard, yes, many of us also supported her concerns but it was Senator Maxey who brought displaced homemaker legislation to this body. That concern has not gone away and we still have programs. We still...men, have discrimination for women in the State of Nebraska. We need, all of us, to learn to be more sensitive for the concerns of those