

but their survival, and that's where their efforts have been. So I would offer after this, I would offer an amendment to eliminate them completely and I would say to you, if you're not going to eliminate completely, then don't sit here this session and simply wound them again. Leave them alone.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hall, then Senator Chambers.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. Speaker, members, I would agree with Senator Landis and I would agree with Senator DeCamp. The advocacy commissions are much needed. I represent, if not the largest population of Mexican-Americans in the state, it has to be the second and I'll be real honest with you, many of those are undocumented. But I have a problem and Senator DeCamp is right. Senator DeCamp says don't wound them and he is absolutely right, but I don't agree with his approach to that answer which is the amendment that he has on the desk that follows this. I have a problem with the whole special session. I am of the firm belief that we're looking at the wrong side of the ledger. We have, and you can attest to that by the number of special sessions we have had just in the last two years, it's no secret to anybody. I've only been here two years and I think this is the fifth special session that I've been in. Four of those were called for budget reasons or had something to do with budgets. But the whole issue here is, are we dealing with the right side of the ledger and I would argue that we are not. Through this special session and others we have taken the attitude that mediocre government is the way that we would like to function as the State of Nebraska. We have decided to wound, as Senator DeCamp would offer, I would say we have dinked and we have nicked and we've just tried to irritate sections of government as we have taken the approach to reduce rather than look at the entire side or the revenue side that has really gone unchanged for a number of years. We have played around with the income tax, we have played around with the sales tax, but we've done no serious...taken no serious look at the income side of things. We are in the process of that. We are doing a tax study that hopefully will change the entire way that we look at our budget. We let entire systems or sections of our budget go unchecked, in my opinion, but yet we deal with roughly \$850 million and we continue, at least in the last two years, to nick and to dink away at it and really all we do is we cheat ourselves and we cheat the people of the state. I'm not going to be brazen enough to suggest that we would look at a tax increase. Far be it from me to ever suggest that, but far be it from the Governor to ever include it in the call, but I would offer this, that if