

even available...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for negotiation. To make this issue available for negotiation is to say that whether or not there will be equal law enforcement protection throughout the city is dependent on whether the union and the City of Omaha agree to grant it. The facts, the statistics establish that unequal law enforcement currently is the case in Omaha. I hope that you will support this bill. There will not be many times when you will see myself and the chief of police on the same side of an issue. This is one which we both see as being so grave that it must be addressed legislatively and I hope you will support this bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Before I proceed to the next speaker, I would like to introduce some guests of Senator Day. In the south balcony we have members of the Norfolk Business and Professional Women's Organization. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being here. Discussion. We have an amendment I believe, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have is Senator Hartnett. This is AM0365. (Hartnett amendment appears on pages 1778-79 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, what my amendment does is simply, Senator Chambers' bill simply deals with police in a municipality city which is only Omaha. My amendment simply opens it up to first class cities, and I passed out earlier today a letter from our police chief and our city administrator and I'll read part of it for the record. The contractual difficulties relating to patrol district manpower, hours of work and shift assignments are not a problem unique to the Omaha Police Division. The Bellevue Police Department experiences the same problem in being able to exercise the management rights of personnel assignments, work schedules and the efficient distribution of allocating personnel. The Bellevue Police Officers Association contract was originally formulated from the Omaha Police Division's contract, and contains the same contract language regarding shift assignments,