

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: That doesn't mean that the rookie or the green officer is the best person either. It has to be a mix and a combination of the two. The incident that Senator Chambers speaks of, the Baldwin issue should never have happened. There should have never been two rookies, female rookie officers with 18 months or less in the same car in that area dealing with that issue. It just flat out shouldn't have happened. And provisions are in the contract right now that gives the chief of police the ability to make those kinds of changes on a case by case basis and emergency situations. Making the chief of police the ultimate authority in this area is not going to necessarily mean that public safety is going to be protected. A chief of police can take care of his or her favorites. They can put people in certain areas of town for purposes of penalizing them and bargaining units protect against that. That's what they're in place for.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I listened to all these pretty speeches. I listened to Senator Hall who stated that on 757 he was concerned about bargaining units bargaining away the rights of people and that's why he offered that amendment and he was opposed to the way the Legislature put those bargaining units in a position to bargain away the rights of other workers, but he's more than willing to let the union and the city bargain away the right to equal law enforcement protection for the citizens. We're not talking about a special interest group now, we're not talking about people making a quarter more an hour. We're talking about a very real problem of law enforcement and when you deal with the largest city in the state and the issue is one of law enforcement, it is a matter of statewide concern and Senator Bromm knows it. He knows there are not many issues that will be more important than this one. It's one thing to say that the union persuaded him to vote that way, but another thing to try to trivialize the issue and indicate it's not really as important as other things that we have to look at. As for what Senator Witek said, she doesn't support unions that much anyway and I started to ask her who wrote the statement for her, but I won't because it doesn't make any difference. The crucial issue