

proceed, I would like to call the senators' attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Schmitt are 15 twelfth graders from Greeley High School in Greeley, Nebraska and their teacher. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. Senator Hall, you're next, followed by Senators Ashford and Witek. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Madam President, members, I rise this morning to just clarify what took place the other day when we discussed this bill. I pulled the transcript from the debate the other day. I was...I thought I had a very early request, my request was second only to Senator Chambers when it went up about 20 minutes after we left the floor. But I did review the comments that I made at that time. Although the comments are probably clean in terms of what I said, what I implied was that the...some information had been given to me by the police union, and I believe it was given very forthrightly. They were straightforward in saying that there were some changes that were going on because of meetings that had taken place, or a meeting that had taken place between the police chief and the mayor, that they were looking into making some shift changes with regard to duties and responsibilities. That's what was told to me. I took that in turn to mean that it was in response to LB 717, and that's what I think I implied to the body. I did not explicitly say that, but I clearly...that could be read into...from reading the record on debate in this bill earlier last week. With that, I said, if I was misinformed or misled, that I would vote to advance this bill to Select File. I think that I basically put myself in a box, so to speak, and I'll pull the lid in over on top of me for now. I had a discussion with Senator Chambers after I had left the floor. The first thing I did was call the mayor's office, talked to the mayor, then had a subsequent conversation with the chief of police. Both of them explained that they did have a meeting, but that it was not in relation to LB 717, and that they were doing these changes, basically for purposes of public safety. I told Senator Chambers at that time, off the floor, after we debated, that it appeared that I probably had boxed myself, for purposes of this, and that I would be good to my word, period. I was not going to debate the bill any further, that I would advance it over to Select File. And Senator Chambers can correct me if I'm wrong, but I stated at that time then the fight would be on and that I was still going to be opposed to LB 717, that I would move to kill the bill, but that for purposes of discussion today that I was going to vote to advance the bill to Select File, that that