

to...we must give the general the opportunity to place his or her troops where they are most effective, where they are most effective. It may be in the northeast quadrant, may be in the central quadrant, in the northwest quadrant, in the southwest quadrant, or in Senator Pirsch's district, or wherever it is. We have to try...And I understand the concern of every police officer and their union. I negotiated maybe 30 collective bargaining agreements for public employees, and it's extremely difficult to do. And I understand exactly what Tom Moon is talking about. I sympathize with his concern. But as I...what I tell you again is we need to elevate this issue above that for a while and talk about what we're about. We have a public safety problem in our city, in Omaha, that's the city I know about, and maybe you do in your cities, or maybe you don't. But I know we have one in central Omaha, which isn't northeast Omaha, it's central Omaha. I am concerned enough about that problem that we use every tool we can possibly use to address the problem. And, yes, there's flexibility in the existing collective bargaining agreement. There is flexibility there. But I suggest that this is an emergency, I suggest that this is a concern of all of my constituents, and I think the union, when they sit down with the city to negotiate out this and other issues, will see it as well. And I...I...on Select File I think we do have to talk about amendments that would require the parties to return to the bargain unit...bargaining table to make sure that the...that the individual union employees get something, in effect, for this, if that's what we're talking about. But that, I believe, is secondary to the number one concern, which is public safety throughout all of our city. And it's not that the union is trying to protest that, or to obstruct public safety, they're working very, very hard, the police officers are working very, very hard to ensure public safety. But we are a legislative body, we are a contemplative body, we are supposed to take a look at all of the problems and decide is...has this public safety concern risen to the level where we need to take just this one issue of geographic distribution of officers and take it off the table, because it is so...of such dire concern to our community, not that the police officers aren't doing a good job, not that the union is not adequately representing their employees, not that there hasn't been good faith bargaining, that is not...those are not the issues. I'll...the state statutes and our state Constitution create the right to bargain. It res...

PRESIDENT MOON: One minute.