

mace and other implements from them because we certainly cannot trust them in that realm. I don't think that a job which is stressful, at best, should have this quota thing done to skewer the direction that law enforcement is taking. For some of the members who might be somewhat unaware of how this could work, in a densely populated area like Omaha or Lincoln a trooper could probably get the quota without varying too much from the way he or she would write tickets anyway. But if you're in one of the sparsely populated areas of the state, you've got to start writing tickets for people under circumstances where you ordinarily didn't. Somebody may be five miles over the limit, which is not going to result in a ticket, but now it might have to and people are going to say, "I didn't get tickets for this before. Why am I getting them now? I read in the paper you got to get a quota. I'm your quota, huh?" Well, look at Senator Schmitt now. He was a trooper for a thousand years and I'm sure he had to arrest people. I'm sure he had to give tickets and I'm sure people were not happy when they ran into him in this regard, but he apparently had not come forward seeming like somebody so unfair and unjust that he couldn't get elected to the Legislature. The nature of that job is such that the contacts with the public often are not going to make those contacted happy, but they can generally detect and determine whether or not they are being stopped appropriately. They might not like it, but they accept it as one of the things that has occurred. But I think when you hurt the image of the patrol in this fashion, when you skewer the direction of law enforcement you should ask yourself this question, would we rather have an officer who will prevent three burglaries from being committed by the way he or she patrols or, after three burglaries have been committed, try to catch the three burglars? Prevention is as important as catching. You have another thing to consider, a lazy evaluator. All that they have to do now is set up a stack of paper that equals the quota height, then bring in all the paper that this trooper has written, lay the two side by side and if it's not high enough you get a bad evaluation. But those who serve as security guards for the Governor don't have to worry about that because they don't have to write tickets. Those in other aspects of State Patrol work are not going to be judged by ticket writing, and even those who are monitoring traffic should not be judged in this manner, so I hope the Colonel will do away with that type of a quota system. It is unfair, it is against the principles of law enforcement and we know that most of what an officer does is based on discretion. Many times, I have been critical of what individual officers do,