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Patrol, mainly, legal..lawyers or legal authority for the staff for assisting the patrol in their investigations and their operations. The amendment clarified how this..how these attorneys could be added to the Patrol, would be placed on the Patrol and how they would be used. If you will note in the amendment, it amends the section dealing with the Attorney General and his staff saying that the Superintendent of the Patrol shall provide not less than three legal consultants for the Nebraska State Patrol to assist County Attorneys in the preparation of prosecution in the cases involving drug abuse and to advise the Patrol on all legal..legal matters. In other words, it goes beyond just drug abuse. The idea was that these would be placed in certain areas of the state, stationed throughout the state and it clarifies the original bill. It shows the state how these legal counsel would be used.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion of the amendment?  
Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, may I ask Senator Luedtke a question.

SPEAKER: Senator Luedtke, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Yes.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Now, as I understand it, the present law permits one or more special prosecutors. That's correct. And the original bill would change the name from special prosecutors to agency legal counsel.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: That's correct.

SENATOR WHITNEY: But it left one or more in the bill, all it did was change the name.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: That's right.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Is that correct?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: That right.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Now the committee amendment says that now we'll have not less than three legal counsels, and I'm just wondering why we have to have it this way. Why isn't it alright for the agency involved here to go to the budget committee and say we need three or we need four or whatever the number is and let the budget committee make the decision at that time because in the present law that can be done. Why do we have to force this upon ourselves.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Well, I think it was, more or less, a restriction on the amount..on the number to be added. If you want to know..I'll let the Senator Schmit speak for this. I don't want to attempt to speak for him on this but I think this was the intent. The state says this is how many we need right now, we are just going to put it in the bill.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Well, this is how many we may need right now, but maybe in the future, we won't need that many and we may wish to cut them out.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Would you mind if Senator Schmit answers that?

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, in response to Senator Whitney's questions, I don't know just how to say that the Patrol did not request these men from the budget committee but you know this is an item on which I have spent some time in the last few years. Originally, a year ago