

getting into the law enforcement training center at Grand Island. I think that is the only reason it is in the bill. But I see no strong reason why it should be part of the Civil Service statutes and I would urge you adopt the committee amendments as amended by Senator Vickers, if you so choose.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment and I would like to share some of my thoughts about why. This is a mechanism to weed out those who may not be desirable in the position. Most anyone given an incentive to either complete high school if they are of regular high school age or if you are past high school to work for your equivalent diploma can do so. Now it is true I was a senior citizen, nearly, by the time I finished this second degree at the University, but I started college before I was through high school. That is not the point we are talking about. Yes, you can get into college without having your high school diploma, but you have to be nearly there or there has to be an indication that you have the ability. If someone is trying to be a police officer, he or she should be willing to make the effort to either have a high school diploma or its equivalent and I think that is one of the criteria we do not want to remove. Senator Vickers, I would help you remove the other vague language talking about a good moral character. That may be hard to pin down. But I feel we are making a mistake to use this as one of the criteria. By making the requirements less, if anything they ought to be made higher, so that we have persons who are fast thinkers and the guidelines are used as a mechanism to choose the best of the available pool. I find nothing wrong with that, Senator Vickers. In fact, I find many reasons it should be there.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Lundy.

SENATOR LUNDY: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I rise to support the Vickers amendment. We have no objection to the language that he chooses to put in the LB 372. As Senator Rupp indicated to you, the language was put in there to satisfy the requirements of the police academy at Grand Island, and as far as the Legislature is concerned, I see no reason to put it in there. It is there...if they have a