

February 14, 1994 LB 28

placing guns in the hands of people who don't need them in order to carry out their duties. The duties of these officers were laid out and defined without the need to have firearms. We should not give those firearms and, if there is authority without an affirmative statement from the Legislature, my amendment would make it clear that as policy-makers we don't want these people to wear side arms, I certainly don't. And I know there are people who will probably vote against this amendment, vote for this bill and cross their fingers and hope to whatever God they believe in that there are no armed confrontations or no shootings, because they don't want to hear me come back and say I told you so. I wonder if they'll think as kindly toward me as they did towards "Slush Slimeball" when he wrote his book, I Told You So, or whatever it was. We are talking about lethal or deadly force, more guns in the hands of people whose job does not justify that. I hope you will vote for this amendment. And, Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have left?

SPEAKER WITHEM: You have three minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm going to ask for a call of the house and continue so that people will have the opportunity to come here and it won't take any extra time to achieve that.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Question is, shall the house go under call? All in favor signify by voting aye, all opposed no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 14 ayes, 0 nays to go under call.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Would all members please return to the body and record their presence. Would all unauthorized people please leave the floor, and Senator Chambers, you may continue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, in order that people will know what this amendment does, because the actual wording may have been forgotten, on page 9 of the green copy are these words, and they are the words I use for my amendment, "Carrier enforcement officers shall not be authorized to carry side arms on their person". That's what my amendment says. I lifted the language straight out of the original copy of LB 28. There was a time when bus drivers for Greyhound wanted the power and the right to carry pistols, and they were petitioning Legislatures all over