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I've been in the Legislature, and in the last year has been endorsed by the Governor, in return by those departments of law enforcement, state, county, local who are supporting this bill. If there's any questions, I'd be glad to answer them as we get into the debate. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. We'll now move to debate on the amendment to the amendment. Senator Schmitt.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. I just have one question, I guess, for Senator Pedersen now. He answered the other one I had yesterday that Senator Coordsen had asked. The question I have, Senator Pedersen, is people that want to go into the college system on this, is there any background check or anything prior to them entering the college rank that would let them know whether they would be eligible for the training academy after they go to the...get their college credits?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Senator. Senator Schmitt, in this bill it doesn't designate that, no. And I would see no need to do them background searches, unless somebody personally wanted to know if they were probably going to be eligible to go on, beyond the academic courses, to the police academy, checking themselves to see whether or not they could make it. The background search and all of the hoops that they have to jump through to get into the academy would still be there, but it would be after the academic courses and before they took the other type of training.

SENATOR SCHMITT: And these academic courses would count toward any other degree, possibly, that they...if they weren't eligible for the academy, so they wouldn't lose their college hours, I guess you would say, or credits?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Never thought of that, Senator, but that's true. Yes, they would be...if they would use them towards another degree, such as criminal justice, yes, they would count.