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we need more troops. I don't have, off the top of my head, what our strength is compared to authorized strength but I know it's under our authorized strength at this point. So I will oppose Senator Chambers' amendment to take this money out. I think it will be money well spent.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Schmitt, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, I guess maybe I'm a little bit behind on this here, Senator Wehrbein or Senator Chambers, but I'm probably going to oppose the amendment. But do you know, Senator Wehrbein, is these troopers going to be replacements for our safety ed? I have heard the mention of public service or public relations people, and I guess public relations people, in my opinion, everybody out there that wears a badge and a uniform has to be a public relations individual in their own community. So we dealt with this safety ed program previous, and if it's going in for safety ed, I would be a strong supporter of it. If it's not, I'd question it from the standpoint that we've got an awful lot of administrative people in the offices, and if we want more people on the road, I think we should get rid of some of them and save some dollars.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Schmitt, I don't believe that this has any basis...any connection with the safety education program, as near as I understand it. There may be some of that going on of these troops there now, but I don't know that answer. I really don't want...I can't give you a definitive answer but we were led to believe that it is...it is not any more than what I mentioned about what's going on out there now with...in the areas of domestic violence and that type of thing.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Well, that's...that's what I was kind of wondering, actually, what they were going to be because I heard you say you didn't really know what their job description was, and I'm sure...I don't know what their description would be at this point in time either. So I did have some concerns, I guess, from my past occupation on what we were trying to do. If it was safety ed, I'd be a strong supporter of it. If it's another level of administration or these guys are going to have