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FLOOR DEBATE

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going to need something to override my inhibitions and I haven't reached that level of hostility toward this bill yet. But what I do think we have to consider right at this point with this amendment--are we going to craft a bill which is designed to show that we are a responsible group of people who take lawmaking seriously? I know the Legislature is the butt of every kind of joke, every asinine joke. One that you hear and people think is so clever each time they tell it says, nobody's property is safe while the Legislature is in session. Well, the reason for that is because everybody who lives in the county is a member of the Legislature, and when they come to the Legislature, the robbers know nobody is at home and they go and steal their property. That's why; not because the Legislature is doing it. There are three branches to this government--the judicial, the executive, and the legislative. All that we do is to make law, and we ought to have a degree of pride. You all ought to be conscious all the time of the important role that you play. While people are mocking the Legislature, every one of those mockers has to come by the Legislature for something. We pass laws that relate to every aspect of people's lives and we should not do this in a lighthearted manner and, by that, I don't mean we can't be humorous but where we take it as something as being inconsequential. What you're doing is more important than what Moses did. Moses was a lawmaker. You all are lawmakers of a greater magnitude than Moses. You can pass a law that will send people in uniforms, armed with guns, on to the property and into the homes of citizens and residents of this state. That is an awesome amount of power and it carries an awesome responsibility. When we come to a piece of legislation like this which is going to favor a giant corporation, we owe it to ourselves, not just as lawmakers but as individuals, to do what we ought to do under our oath to protect the welfare of the public. If you believe that these giveaways are good, if you really believe they enhance the life quality in this state, you really think that passing this bill is going to aid in the growth of the economy and the population of this state, you...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...genuinely believe it's going to assist in