

iences in Lancaster County which basically I thought were very bad and detrimental to the efficiency and effectiveness of the County Sheriff's Department. In the primary last year there were a number of candidates for that office. Some were on the inside, that is department personnel running for sheriff and then there were a number of candidates on the outside, and in the primary, I don't know if you recall this or not or are familiar with that situation but it turned into a very intense campaign and you had a situation where one candidate would say I have got ten deputy sheriffs on my side. Another candidate would then go to the department and talk to the different deputy sheriffs and say, ah, ha, I have got twelve deputy sheriffs on my side and the current county sheriff was not running for reelection so it was a wide open race but his influence was played on and he, in turn, had some effect, I can't remember exactly which candidate he was supporting, trying to get certain support from the department for them and you had a situation where you were listing totals and I have got more deputy sheriffs on my side than you do and then it went on to the general election where the two outsiders and both started to total up their support in the department. The result was there was such a divisive issue that the department was torn apart. I hope that it has taken care of itself now. I am sure it probably has but it really tore apart the department during this election and I was very concerned about the results of this. I'd like to see some restrictions placed on coercion on the part of different candidates in getting support from the deputy sheriffs. I can understand that we ought to allow them to have a chance to be involved in the political process absolutely. Nobody should be denied that right but what happened in Lancaster County should not be repeated. We should take steps now to prevent that from ever happening again because the results are so devastating and I really think...I thought it was a serious problem and I wanted to bring it to your attention and I thank you for your consideration.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Venditte and then Senator Cullan and then Senator Chambers to close on his amendment. Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, just in response to Senator Wesely, I remember when I was running for the 7th District Legislature, I think I had about every single school teacher that was affiliated with the NSEA and about \$2200 worth of campaign contributions against me and, you know, I would like to think that within my profession there was a little bit of some disgruntling because I was an educator. You know, I was a former admin-