

place a system whereby the state would appropriate money to operate the Law Enforcement Training Center. The state has taken the position that law enforcement at the municipal and county level is a matter of state concern and as such, there should be certain training requirements to equip these individuals to fulfill the law enforcement function more competently. So rather than tailgating on court costs a dollar for the Training Center and the Governor and the Training Center are trying to add an additional fifty cents to that, the state should do away with all of this tinkering with the court system and simply by appropriation provide the money necessary to operate this Training Center. One of the deficiencies in the present system of funding is that the Center is limited to whatever money might be available which means that there could be legitimate, justifiable programs which cannot be implemented because enough money has not been generated by these court cost fees. So what the amendment, which you will find on page 417 would do is to strike that dollar from the court cost that goes to the law enforcement training fund by requiring an appropriation by the Legislature for this agency as it does any other one. The agency would come in and present its case and show how much is needed to operate and carry out the programs that the Legislature requires it to carry out and the money would then be made available in that fashion. The Chief Justice, and there are other judges who feel that court costs should not be a vehicle for raising revenue for other agencies. An additional dollar is tacked on the court cost for the judges retirement fund. The Chief Justice also does not feel that that dollar should be attached to court costs. So since we have a bill here dealing with the law enforcement training fund we ought to correct that problem this morning and if you have any questions to put to me, I will be glad to answer them and if you want some figures based on various amounts that the Law Enforcement Training Center has had to operate with, I think Senator Johnson can provide you with those figures from some research he has had done but anything based on the issues I have raised I am prepared to answer questions and I am asking adoption of the amendment.

**SPEAKER MARVEL:** Senator Vard Johnson, do you wish to be recognized on the Chambers amendment?

**SENATOR V. JOHNSON:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, just a couple of remarks on the amendment that Senator Chambers and I introduced. Both of us are members of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee that heard this bill and we did want to put this but the bill itself was a fairly innocuous bill and we wanted to get it to the floor of the Legislature right away so we advanced it but at the time there was considerable discussion in our committee