

Vickers. Now I am not sure that everybody in this body would be in total agreement with that, but certainly Senator Goodrich and myself can see the wisdom of your remarks and your arguments. We would be more than willing to help do that. And while you are at it, if you could take over our police and fire departments, we would appreciate that too and we have some courts that we would like to cede to the state, and, frankly, Senator Vickers, you have an excellent idea and I would like to expound upon that, and if we weren't dealing with this bill at this time, I would be more than happy to share some of those costs that the city...the people of Omaha have. This bill basically is going to allow...again, I want to restate this point, it is going to allow the City of Omaha to have the same powers that the Fire Marshal's office has. We are not going to give these powers to a whole lot of people. We are going to give it to four people who are going through the Law Enforcement Program, who are going to go through all the training plus the training they have had as fire officials. The people that get these kinds of jobs by standard operating procedure and etcetera are going to have right now twenty some years of experience and that is not going to be changed. They are all captains. They are all responsible individuals, all four of them. Well, frankly, the Chamber of Commerce, when it studied the cities, the Economic Task Force recommended that this be done because of the managerial and other kinds of factors. It will save the city money. It will save the city money inasmuch as you will not have to call in a team on every situation that occurs. These officers are frequently in danger and that is why there is a need to carry weapons. These are irresponsible men who all of a sudden are going to go brandishing guns and shoot up the neighborhood. They are people who have had many examples and many situations where their life was endangered. And Senator Labeledz has offered to read some of those examples. This is, in fact, a good bill, a well thought out bill. To discuss Senator Chambers' arguments, first of all, standard operating procedure for the police and the fire division would not authorize these individuals to carry shotguns and tear gas canisters and etcetera, etcetera. If, Senator Chambers, you wish to make it very clear that they can only carry a thirty-eight, or whatever, that amendment can be accommodated. I think it is unnecessary. It is not likely to be a problem but we are more than happy to put that in if that would in any pacify you, which I know it won't. So, we are really not talking about that either. We are not talking about the kinds of fears that could be thrown up in this area. This is a good bill. The bill