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course of any investigation, not just one that relates to arson?

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Chambers, their duties are very clearly defined in.....

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I am not asking that, I am asking you a question so that we can get the sense of this amendment. With your amendment they would be law enforcement officers based on the definition you are putting in this section, when they are conducting any investigation.

SENATOR NEWELL: If they go through the training that is necessary and if they meet all the other qualifications, then they are, in fact, they do fit the qualifications of a law enforcement officer, that is correct, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, and I am saying this for the record because I know you all are tired now and you are saturated with the discussion of this. In the body of the bill and during all of the discussion, you have been told that these people are to carry guns and have the powers of police officers only when investigating arson. Now you are giving a definition, Senator Beutler, which expands it and says they have the power to carry these guns and all these powers of police officers when they are conducting any investigation. And Senator Newell has acknowledged that they do conduct investigations of fires that are not related to arson. So it means whenever one of these people is involved in an investigation, he or she is a full fledged law enforcement officer to the same extent that a member of the State Patrol is. That is what the definition that you are putting into the law enforcement section will do. And if that is what you want to do, then I say, have at it, but I want no part of it and I have done all I could to call your attention to it.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of the Newell amendment. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted on the adoption of the Newell amendment? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 6 nays on the motion to adopt Senator Newell's amendment, Mr. President.