

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I have also neglected to look at this amendment beforehand. I did have a couple of questions of Senator Schmit. Has this had a public hearing, Senator Schmit, this question?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I don't think it has had a public hearing, Senator. It has been discussed by many people but the amendment, obviously, was not a part of the bill. I don't think a public hearing is necessary for an amendment of this type. We have tried to slide amendments on the various bills that have a lot greater diversity than this does.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Could you tell me once more basically what it does, Senator Schmit?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, it physically moves the staff from where they are housed at the present time with the Department of Corrections to the office under the Law Enforcement and Crime...or the Crime Commission. At the present time, the Department of Corrections is not able to provide any services to them. They have to do their own budgeting and their own physical housekeeping out there. In this manner they will be able to use the budgetary staff of the Crime Commission and the Crime Commission will have no authority over the Jail Standards Board. They will just be...the staff of the Jail Standards Board will be a division of the Crime Commission.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The Department of Corrections doesn't have budgetary staff that can assist them?

SENATOR SCHMIT: They do not assist them at this time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But they do have staff?

SENATOR SCHMIT: But there is no connection between the Department of Corrections and the Jail Standards Board at the present time. They are just housed out there.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Administratively what do they come under right now? Do they come under the Department of Corrections administratively?

SENATOR SCHMIT: To a degree they do although there is no supervisory authority whatsoever. There is no control from the Department of Corrections. The Jail Standards Board is an independent board and they were just planted out there, I guess, at the time the board was created and it was felt by members of the board, the board favors the