

saying is that these people who are risking their lives literally for the laws that we are asking them to enforce, that we need to have just a special little thing where we say in our hearts not only do we appreciate what you're doing but we understand the terrible risk. And I would like to challenge the body at some point to do what many members of the body have done and I know I have done so and go out with the State Patrol some evening, at night. And you're out on the Interstate, or out on the road and you're all by yourself, there is no other patrolman with you. The next patrolman may be 50 miles away, may be 25 miles away, you don't know, and you have you and your radio. And you stop someone that has a tinted window, from another state. You can't see inside and you walk up to the car and you know what could happen at any moment. And we all know where law enforcement people have been shot without any time to respond. And it may be a simple speeding case, it may be a simple driving while intoxicated case. But each one could be the one where they give their life. And the tension that I felt, just being with them for that particular evening, was one that would certainly age all of us a little bit prematurely, and they live with that every day with their children and their wives. And they know what's going to happen some day, if they're not careful, and even if they are careful what can happen.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And I would hope that members of the body, instead of worrying about whether judges are going to come in next, or teachers are going to come in next, what have you, to say, hey, we can deal with those issues when they come up as state policy. But if, on the one hand, we're going to ask people to risk their lives more and more in trying to stop the social diseases that we have, particularly in the illegal drug trafficking that goes through our states from one coast to another, then we have to have compassion on the other hand saying, if you're willing to risk your lives for our children and for us, we're willing to help you and your surviving spouse and family members in case the inevitable might...in case the, hopefully, negative outcome might actually happen. And I think Senator Haberman has brought us one that is a compassionate bill, that is something the Legislature can, in their hearts, do. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, further discussion? Senator Schmit. Senator Wesely. Senator Nelson on