

prefer not to have this in there because I think it does make the issue somewhat subjective and may cause some problems sometime when there aren't any there. Now certainly I'm not one to say that there should be any abuse of any kind, but it does sometimes is in the eye of the beholder and so I would oppose the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Dierks, followed by Senator Chambers and Preister.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I think Senator Wehrbein is right on track with his description of why the language should be left in. I had an occasion when I was in the air force to have I think there were like 24 German shepherds that we took care of who were guard dogs and it was kind of a new procedure that we were going through at the time because they were guarding a bomb dump that was storing atomic weapons. They just did a perimeter around this particular weapons area periodically. These dogs were trained as attack dogs. That isn't what we're talking about here but I'll just tell you a little bit about how that works. The attack dogs are trained to attack anybody. When the trainer lets go of them why they're gone and they're after the person that the trainer puts them on. Nobody else can handle the dog. Well in this particular case one person could handle all the dogs in that particular facility but no one else could and other than that only the trainer himself could handle it and they both went through an extensive training session out in Colorado before they came back to our area. Now these dogs in the normal course of an event were led around with a choke collar and that's how they controlled them and they would just pull up on the choke collar to make them behave and they understood right away what that meant, but to some casual observer watching the trainer pull up on the choke collar you'd swear they were being cruel to the dog because they'd actually almost lift them off the ground at times. And so this is part of their training but in the normal use of the dog it would also involve this sort of a procedure and I think that without the language you might have someone who was watching this procedure say that the officer was using the dog in his normal course of business and needed to control him and use his choke collar to do it, a casual observer might complain about that and I think that this is all part of the procedure that is used. The dogs are accustomed to that and it isn't really as cruel as it might appear. It does offend some people I think, but that's what I think this amendment of