

can understand your being a little hot under the collar, but this that we're dealing with now is practicality and I don't think any harm is going to be done. It's better to get a bill that's amended than no bill at all. So I support this and we should always hold our temper. Temper, temper, temper, Senator Witek. (Laugh.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam Speaker, the amendment should be on your desk. I want to remind you it's on both sides of the paper that was handed out, signed by me. The one section is on the front, the other section is on the back that was changed. I think it's self-evident how it reads, for purposes of this section police animal means a horse or dog owned or controlled by the State of Nebraska for the purpose of assisting a Nebraska State Trooper acting pursuant to his or her official authority. That's the intent of the amendment. It does bring it under...I think it's been satisfactorily explained. I think I'm going to probably quit discussing this amendment. Once again, I will come back next year and have a refined version to include police horses and dogs in other governmental entities, but I have to confess I want to look into their standard of training in other areas. I cannot stand on this floor today and tell you that all other government entities, besides the State of Nebraska, have the same standards, for example, in police dog training; I might assume that they do, but I do not know that. So I admit I do have some unanswered questions. I am comfortable with this amendment in order to get the bull...bull (laugh), get the bill...get the bill moving, and I urge your support of this at this point.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Will. Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the body, I was reading out of an Omaha World-Herald article from January 31, 1995, where it said, police animals in Omaha are protected by a city ordinance passed in 1992. But I have been informed by the lobbyist for the City of Omaha, who just talked to the Chief of Police, and we don't have any ordinance covering these animals. So we don't have any protection for these animals. We're giving the protection now to the State Patrol. Omaha has no protection, that's why they did come in and testify in favor of