

bringing these elements together so there is, in fact, a direct line of responsibility; when something like this happens, there is nobody pointing the finger at somebody else, that there is, in fact, somebody in charge, somebody who will take responsibility, somebody who is accountable. And with the example cited by Senator Chambers and others, there will be mistakes made over time, there always are. Human nature causes on occasion mistakes to happen, but the idea is that the structure that we have in place should minimize those mistakes, and when they occur, they should be responded to, reacted to, and if, in fact, someone has stepped out of bounds and needs to have action taken against them, that's where we want to intervene. Now that, in fact, comes back to the point of exempt positions. If this sort of problem occurs and the position is protected by personnel, it is very difficult to do something about it. That is one of the reasons we wanted to expand the number of exempt positions. We do that a little bit, not as much as I'd like, but a little bit now still in the bill. But that's the whole point of the bill, that there have been problems with the existing structures, that there are ways we can do a better job, that there are ways that we can address some of the concerns Senator Chambers is raising, and so I share his concern, and acknowledge that there are problems and mistakes. And my thinking is that this proposal, this bill, will move us forward in addressing those concerns and be able to provide the kind of accountability that we need in this system. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I've said how tenacious Mr. Leuenberger was in pursuing a family. I am going to pursue Mr. Leuenberger just as tenaciously despite the somewhat veiled suggestion by Senator Wesely that there might be a more appropriate time to discuss what I'm discussing. I don't know whether I will drop dead tomorrow. Senator Abboud, you smiled at that. I was down here working Saturday and I bought a donut at a shop on 27th and O and it almost killed me literally. I could barely drive home. I was flat on my back all day Sunday. Couldn't eat, the thought of food made me nauseous. An ordinary human being, such as sitting in this Chamber other than myself, would be...they'd be processing you in some mortuary by now, but, nevertheless, you all are blessed by my presence because I overcame whatever that