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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm certainly glad that Senators Tyson and Wehrbein raised questions about the bill so that we can establish a record. If you look at the language of the bill, it says the following, this is a very brief bill: A state agency or political subdivision shall not directly or indirectly require a law enforcement officer to issue a certain number of tickets and these other things. That does not say that the overall performance of an officer may not be considered. Senator Wehrbein and "Baron" Tyson, a requirement would be where the commanding officer says, this day you shall write 10 tickets; for the entire week you shall write 45 tickets. That is a requirement, a mandate. What this bill is doing is prohibiting a mandate. What can be done by anybody under this bill is to consider the overall performance of an officer. If everybody else in the troop is writing 50 percent more tickets than a particular officer, that officer can be brought in and made to explain why this situation is the way it is. To discuss it, to consider it is not to require it. What the commander could not say is that, in disregard of every thing else that you're doing as a trooper, your failure to write this required number or percentage, that's what the bill talks about, a required number or percentage, then you cannot continue as a law enforcement officer. Senator Wehrbein, because I don't have a hidden agenda, if the word "indirectly" were to be given short shrift, that would not bother me because we're beginning to move in a certain direction with this bill. The direct requirement of a number or percentage is not too difficult to establish as being in existence. Senator Wehrbein raised the issue of whether or not the word "indirectly" might be construed to mean that the subject of how many tickets are written or not written could even be discussed. I'd like to ask Senator Schmitt a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Schmitt, would you yield?

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Schmitt, the problem that generated this bill was a direct imposition of a quota system in terms of writing tickets and these other types of memoranda?