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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR HUDKINS: They don't have law...

SENATOR BEUTLER: And putting them under the State Patrol doesn't do that necessarily, does it?

SENATOR HUDKINS: They don't have law enforcement training. Right now, if they see a crime being committed, they have to report to a law enforcement officer. That will not change. But since they are now under the auspices of the State Patrol, the Patrol is in a position to examine the current policies, the procedures, where before they did not have that authority, and make changes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, is it the intent to turn these people out?

SENATOR HUDKINS: No. That's not my intent at all.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would the State Patrol have the prerogative of doing that if we put it under their administration?

SENATOR LANDIS: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is there any job protection for these people who have worked hard to do a good job for us up until now?

SENATOR HUDKINS: I think we probably need to talk to the State Patrol about that. I would think that they would not care to be totally in charge of security, because obviously that would necessitate more officers, which would in fact mean more money. And the people that we have are doing a good job.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So you see this as retaining the current staff plus adding State Patrol to the security force?

SENATOR HUDKINS: No, we're not adding State Patrol. We're just allowing the...no, we're not allowing, we're saying that the current Capitol security force will be reporting directly to the State Patrol rather than to DAS.