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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Redfield, I'm not going to ask you specifics on this surprise amendment, because those of us who have been looking at the bill are not aware of all of that. Were you aware that proceedings of the personnel board are required to follow the requirements of this bill, too, if it's put in place?

SENATOR REDFIELD: No, I was not aware of that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Thank you. And the reason I asked Senator Redfield, I think she kind of goes...looks at what we're doing. I'm going to ask Senator Synowiecki now, because he is the captain of this ship, which is listing badly to starboard and taking on water faster than they can pump it out. Senator Synowiecki, were you aware that personnel board proceedings would have to comply with this bill?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you respond, Senator?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Chambers, it's my understanding that the personnel board or merit commission of county sheriffs is an appeal mechanism available to police officers and sheriff's department employees, and it's not a part of the investigative nature of misconduct on the part of their staff or on part of their sworn officers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, Senator Synowiecki, you said that there are people gathered around who offered provisional changes. Would you look at page 2 where it says, starting in line 1, administrative proceeding means any nonjudicial hearing, any nonjudicial hearing which is authorized to recommend, approve, or order suspension, removal, or discharge of an officer. Is a personnel board authorized to do those things? Either it is or it isn't.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Well, they do, Senator Chambers, on appeal. The intent of the bill is to deal with police officers that are confronted with an administrative investigation, and provides procedural rights to them during that investigation. Yes, an administrative body, such as a personnel board or sheriff's merit commission, can look at the elements of the investigation