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SENATOR VRTISKA: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This amendment would take away the requirement that there be anybody in that position. But it says, if the Adjutant is going to make an appointment, there can be a deputy adjutant general, a chief of staff, or a deputy director. But in any case, that person must have the rank of colonel. So I'm saying, why do we not want to make it mandatory, or keep it mandatory, that somebody be appointed to that secondary slot?

SENATOR VRTISKA: I think if you look at the way it's operated, as I indicated earlier, there was nobody in that position, even though it said they shall have an adjutant...a deputy adjutant or chief of staff. That's not being...that has not been done. And so it was the feeling of the people who were...who brought this bill that they needed to make it not mandatory because in the past when the National Guard was not in active duty like they are now, they didn't think it was necessary to have that person there. And so what we're trying to do now is say that when these type of things happen, they have the opportunity to do or...and not to do it if they don't feel it's necessary. That's what it all boils down to, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you're telling me that currently there is no deputy adjutant general?

SENATOR VRTISKA: No. There hasn't been one.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And there is no chief of staff?

SENATOR VRTISKA: I'm not sure about the chief of staff. But no, I guess there isn't one.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then why don't we just eliminate deputy adjutant general, chief of staff, and require that a deputy director be appointed?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I think it gives an option to do whichever you want. And it would probably be the same person,