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captain from first lieutenant and given the job immediately after that appointment, once he or she is captain.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's the way I would read that language, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now the question I would ask, we're talking about a person who is handling property and fiscal responsibilities. Is it possible that a top sergeant could handle these jobs...I meant, be performing these duties?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I would imagine that that's possible, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But a sergeant could not be appointed to even the assistant position, because being a sergeant is not a commissioned officer. That's a noncom. So a sergeant is out of the picture. You have to be at least a second lieutenant at some point during that four years preceding the appointment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's my understanding.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What is the reason for that?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator, I wouldn't have the foggiest notion, (laugh) frankly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that's in existing law.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I mean, there is in the military, in the National Guard as well as the regular military service, there is a rank and a system by which they do things, and this is just part of their system. It's kind of like, I suppose, moving up the corporate ladder. You have to get to a certain step before you'll be considered to be the CEO or the assistant CEO. It's just part of the military organization, perhaps.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And there is much in the military that makes no sense whatsoever, I assure you. And since we are crafting new legislation, it would seem to me, especially since the National Guard and the Army Reserves are becoming combat units, not just weekends and places where...