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FLOOR DEBATE

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rather than give an opening on that amendment, I'm going to take a few minutes to explain how I think we're going to proceed on Senator Stuhr's bill this morning. As you can see from the listing of amendments in my name, I have considerable disagreement with the bill the way it is drafted. Rather, however, than rewrite the bill on the floor in the manner that I had proposed to do, Senator Stuhr has worked with others to redraft the bill. What I have agreed to do, under the bludgeoning, threatening, torquing, suffocating by the Speaker of your Legislature, your Speaker of your Legislature whom I used to refer to as the "Silver Fox," I have been whipped into submission at this stage. I intend to withdraw all of my pending amendments. Senator Stuhr will then offer her omnibus amendment, which in effect rewrites the bill. I have not read it in detail, but there are parts of that with which I disagree, and Senator Stuhr is aware of the fact that I'm not satisfied with the rewrite. But Senator Brashear is a compassionate man when it suits his purpose to be so. He showed compassion for Senator Stuhr. But he showed no compassion for me, the oldest member of the Legislature. And we on this floor deal, Senator Howard, with reality and pragmatism. So the better part of valor for me at this point is to withdraw my amendments, let Senator Stuhr offer hers. Then, if she can get enough votes to advance the rewritten bill, it will move to Select File and at that time I will renew my analysis and taking apart of the rewrite, should that be necessary. Not having read it, I'm not certain how many of the problems that I saw with it have been corrected, but one that still looms is allowing the Secretary of State to issue firearms licenses. Another area seems to exempt law enforcement officers from having to have a security guard license to carry on this activity. That has to be changed. Anybody who's going to engage in this work for pay has to have a license. When these cops are serving as a security guard, they should not be allowed to wear the uniform of the law enforcement agency for which they work, since the bill says that everybody else has to have a uniform distinctive and different from that worn by law enforcement personnel. So this is not going to be one of those bills, if I have anything to say about it or do to it, which gives the cops a leg up in a private business, while they have one of the most lucrative jobs, at least in Omaha, imaginable. When you see how they manipulate the work hours to