

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 22, 2006 LB 757

away a category of people called deputy state sheriffs. They were appointed by the Governor and assigned to the Department of Corrections. Under the current law, these individuals are appointed to all kinds of boards, commissions, agencies, even the railroads, and the original green form of the bill attempted to eliminate those agencies and entities which would not be affected by the bill. Then, after the committee hearing, it was decided that a simpler way would be to leave all of that alone, and simply insert a statement which would do what the bill was designed to do. That statement is contained in the committee amendment, which becomes the bill, and says that none of these people will be appointed to the Department of Correctional Services. They are law enforcement people, with all the powers of law enforcement people. And when the department had brought a bill to the Legislature to attempt to do that, the bill was killed. In order to circumvent what the Legislature had done, some of these deputy state sheriffs were appointed. They've been conducting investigations and doing other things which are not appropriate for any employee of the Department of Corrections. So what this bill will do, once the committee amendment is adopted, is take the authority away to assign these people to the Department of Corrections. So we would have to adopt the committee amendment first. And I'm prepared to answer any questions you may have. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. For the record, we will go to Senator Bourne, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, to officially open on the committee amendment.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I yield my time to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, have you already...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And at this point, Mr. President, I say, ditto.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Okay. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Open for discussion on the committee amendments, AM0399. There are no lights on. Senator Bourne, did you wish...he waives closing. The question before the body is, shall the committee amendments