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a conversation.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question of Senator Erdman?

SENATOR ERDMAN: Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question, please?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you.

SENATOR ERDMAN: All right. I apologize for interrupting. As I understand the section that Senator Smith is focusing on here, Section 5, we're codifying existing practices, essentially.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Essentially, yes.

SENATOR ERDMAN: The subsection (1), (2), and subsection (3)(a) which deals with the Governor appoints the director. They ensure preparedness for the state to respond and coordinate with the United States Homeland Security Department and then there's a policy group. That's current practice, as I understand. Is that correct?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct.

SENATOR ERDMAN: The new language that would be added to the current practice would be the process of the Executive Board of the Legislature appointing two members, one of the Government Committee and one of the Appropriations Committee, to serve as ex officio members of the policy group.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's correct.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay. So that's one piece of it where the Legislature has a new...has a tie-in or has the ability to serve in a capacity to be aware or to be informed of the policy decisions that may be made through this group...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Exactly.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...and I think that's accurate. The second