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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. You've heard the opening on the first portion of the divided question. Open for discussion. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. And Senator Schimek is correct in saying that this is a policy discussion. I think that it's unnecessary to establish a new Office of Homeland Security when the objectives and the activities of the very same thing are already being carried out. As I stated before...and I don't seek to take a lot of time here, but as I stated before, right now I think we have a more optimal scenario, perhaps not a perfect scenario, but it's more optimal that the agencies are working together, and I mean all agencies. I'm not aware of any legislator who's been shunned from participating in the process. But the agencies are kicking in resources. And my fear is that if we create a new Office of Homeland Security it's license for another line item, a new budget, more administrative expenses rather than pooling the resources of various agencies and departments already kicking in their resources. So I hope that we can vote down this section of the committee amendment and move forward so that we can adopt the other part of the question. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. On with discussion. Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senator Kremer and others.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members of the body, are we starting over again on our time, Mr. Speaker? We are, aren't we? We get three times...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yes, yes, we are. It's a new question, as you know.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I'm not clear of the distinction, frankly, between what Senator Smith wants to do and what this policy does and what I'm after, which is an education issue, so the Legislature has a better understanding of what's going on in homeland security. And that's...maybe this isn't the exact way to do it. Senator Smith thinks we don't need a separate office,