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easier to pass the bill because they're a code agency and they have to do what the Governor says. So if the Governor is in favor of people carrying hidden guns everywhere in our state, then that Governor can just tell the State Patrol what they have to do. And so we don't have now law enforcement people who can talk directly to us about this other than our local law enforcement who have been talking to me about this for many, many years. But the agency that has to issue it, that issue hasn't really been talked about a lot with this particular bill because of the fact that the State Patrol is a code agency of the Governor and doesn't have that ability. At the minimum, we should make sure that they don't have to be taken...take their resources from other aspects of law enforcement in Nebraska and divert them to this. This should be a fair piece that's added to their budget. It should be a wash and it should be fair to the person who's applying for the permit. So that is why I chose this particular amendment of the ones on my list, because at least from the legislative perspective of how do we make sure that the things that we do as a Legislature on behalf of a small group of people who want something doesn't cost the other citizens of the state, either in terms of diverted resources or in terms of actual revenue that would have to be paid for these investigations in order to issue these permits. So I hope today we'll be able to put this amendment on. It's a good way for us to make sure that one of our state agencies is able to not be at a loss. It would be fair in terms of what we would and ever have to appropriate for this purpose. That is the reason I ask your support of this particular amendment. However, I am not in support of the bill and I will have other opportunities to talk about that this morning. But I wanted to be clear, as we start on this discussion of this particular amendment, what this amendment is about. And I think it's a good decision, regardless of where you stand on this particular issue, to make sure that the state agency that issues, and we will become a shall issue state, will have the resources it needs to be able to carry out the aspects of this bill and, on the flip side of that, that we aren't charging those who choose to apply for these permits any more than they need to be charged in order to cover the costs of the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Heard the