

January 8, 1976

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I even had a hearing in Omaha a couple of years ago related specifically to special deputies. Not one special deputy showed up to say anything one way or the other anyway.

SENATOR DICKINSON: I'm aware of that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kime.

SENATOR KIME: Mr. Chairman, a question of Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR KIME: Senator Chambers, you just told Senator Dickinson that all these people were there when you heard the amendment? They heard the amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Sure.

SENATOR KIME: I don't see anything about it here in the ... our .... I don't see any comment here in regard to the testimony on the amendment. There was only one person for this bill, and about six of them against. Now did they stay on and hear this amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kime, they were there for the hearing. All of them wanted a chance to testify. All of them wanted a chance to speak against the provision that the sheriff be appointed. The issue of the special deputies was continuously discussed, and the problems. Somebody, in fact it was Douglas Curry, was saying that he felt the bill was unconstitutional during that hearing. So the possibility that the bill would be scraped was taken up kind of early in the hearing ... when they brought up the issue of the unconstitutionality and the unwillingness of the Committee as a whole to, like I say, go through that uphill battle. So there was nothing .... Here's all I can tell you. The entire transcript of the hearing was not going to be put in this book, but if you want to read the transcript of the hearing, to see how much was discussed while those people were there, you can do it. All I can do is tell you what I remember about the hearing. Now if you feel that I'm not telling the truth maybe you ought to call on one of the other Committee members and ask them, and see if it's 6 to 1 saying I'm telling the truth, or 6 to 1 saying I'm lying.

SENATOR KIME: May I continue? Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: You have the floor, Senator Kime.

SENATOR KIME: As this bill goes on the county shall be liable for the acts of the special deputies. All the special deputies, at the present time, are required to post a \$5,000 bond when they become special deputies. I think that this would turn into ... turn over to the county commissioners, county board.... They'll actually just turn into a political selection. I think the sheriff should have the first say of everyone that he picks and know who he is and what he's going to do. At