

April 8, 1974

in almost all the police departments in the state are against this bill because they think it would be so easily amended to take in the entire state. They don't want their county commissioners or any other organized group to be fooling around with their jail, and their prisoners. It's hard enough now to get a conviction and keep a man in jail if he commits a crime. I urge you not to pass this bill.

PRESIDENT: Next to speak is Senator Chamber, then Senator Syas. Barnett, Richendifer..

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. It disturbs me just a bit to hear Senator Kime to continue to mention convictions and holding people in jail. This is not a court reform bill. It has nothing to do with rules of evidence. It has nothing to do with searches and seizures or any of the procedures that you go through in order to put a man

(End Belt 7A)

(Start Belt #8A)

in jail. When the sheriffs and others came to speak on this bill, prior to that, some of them from Douglas County were concerned. I took a Sunday evening. I generally devote Sunday only to my family. I don't want to be interrupted or bothered with by any body. But because of the closeness of this bill to committee hearing. I took a Sunday evening and went down to the Douglas County Courthouse and talked to the sheriff's deputies. After certain amendments were agreed to be put into the bill, they said they would support the bill. Senator Fellman, graciously, because he has no personal interest in the bill, put in the amendments that he thought would pour oil on the troubled waters and satisfy everybody. Unfortunately law enforcement people are similar to lawyers. They see any change at all as being a threat, as something being designed to undermine them, and that is not always the case. If you had left the law enforcement officials. They would still be still using sling shots instead of pistols, because that is such a radical change. I'm sure they wouldn't give up their guns for sling shots now. When the hearing was being conducted it was difficult to understand what this bill was doing. When you talk about separating corrections from law enforcement Law enforcement is a general term that includes the law. But it can't be subdivided, and the example that was used in the committee was the difference between a hunting dog and a watch dog. It's difficult to take a dog, which when he hears the trumpet, and he knows that he's on the trail of the quarry, and you are accustomed to letting him run like he wants to. It's difficult to take a dog like that and expect him to become sedentary. You put him in one place and he has to stay there. On the other a dog which is trained to just sit and look is difficult to make him into a hunting dog. So you take each one with the capabilities that he possesses and let him do the thing that he does best. The law enforcement officials are the hunters and the catchers. The corrections people are those who take charge of these individuals after they have been caught.