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LB 782

member who is from the division of corrections who presently serves on the commission but is not a part of the Merit Commission. So I would ask for your support for this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, a question of Senator Kilgarin. Would this not load the commission or the committee with an overload of deputy sheriff input?

SENATOR KILGARIN: As I understand it, it would delete the member who is presently a member of the division of corrections and replace him with a deputy sheriff and I have talked with the sponsors of this legislation and they are supportive of this amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well, I have grave concerns about that because it looks like it is loaded now. Before I thought we had a balance.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Senator Kahle, this provision that would delete the member from the division of corrections, this amendment would only apply to counties having a population of 300,000 or more so it would only apply to Omaha, if that would alleviate any of your concerns. It is only applicable to the Omaha area or Douglas County area. It would not affect the greater Nebraska counties.

SENATOR KAHLE: What was their reason for changing it?

SENATOR KILGARIN: As I understand it, the reasoning is that the member who serves for the division of corrections are not under the Merit system presently, thus, they didn't feel that it was proper for him to serve on this commission.

SENATOR KAHLE: I think this is quite a change in what we intended so at the moment I would have to oppose this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I would just ask Senator Kilgarin, could you tell me, does this apply to smaller counties other than Omaha, Lincoln, Sarpy County?

SENATOR KILGARIN: No, Senator Nichol, this particular amendment would only be applicable to the Douglas County area. It says any county having a population of 300,000 or more.