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What happens when anybody else has a claim? They go through the courts. Why hasn't this gone through the courts? Probably because they don't think they can win. Now we all have a bleeding heart for this poor man and it is pitiful. It's too bad, but let's look at the other side just a minute. Has he had any benefits from the state? Did he ever eat on the state? Did they ever pay for his lodging and clothing, food? You bet. And here we are brought in because the committee says, let's pay him a figure that they pull out of the hat, and Senator DeCamp is pulling a different figure out of the hat. If he really has the money coming, we are way under the money. If he doesn't have any coming, we are over the money, and we are making a decision here just out of nowhere, for no reason especially, nothing has been proved to us, we're not supposed to do that, just plunk out a bunch of cash, just plunk out a piece of money. And this doesn't seem reasonable for a body like this to act that way. I think we are more responsible than to be either softhearted or hardhearted just as our whims seems to guide us. If this is a legitimate claim, it should go through the courts. You can sue the state. You can win from the state, but why isn't this done? Because apparently he can't win that way. So we say, Legislature, be responsive, you know, do what you think is right. So somewhere what is right is between 30 and anything from there on up or to nothing. So I oppose the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Howard Peterson.

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would rise to support the DeCamp amendment, and the reason that I do is that since becoming the State Senator from out in that area I have become acquainted with Joe Soukup and with the case. I read all the history on the case. It appears to me that the claim route was the right route. The only problem that I see is that this Legislature held up last year and the year before and that is the reason why we had a problem. Apparently the Claims Court this last year voted 2 to 1 to recommend to this body that a claim be allowed, then it was returned again to the Claims Court again this year. They just recently voted to allow it again 2 to 1 and said the amount ought to be set by the Legislature. I would just like to read you a letter that I received from Joe Soukup. Bear in mind this is a letter from a guy who supposedly has lost all his marbles, a fellow who was in the institution out here, I think abused, and really as John indicated was used as a guinea pig. This is what he says: "First, what options