

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: What I think is important for you to understand is that this isn't designed to deter people from appealing. You have a right to appeal to the Nebraska Supreme Court. It isn't like the United States Supreme Court that picks and chooses what sorts of cases it wants to hear. Every case will initially go to the Nebraska Supreme Court. The Nebraska Supreme Court will then decide which cases get assigned to this three-judge panel of district judges. More than likely they will only assign reasonably simple cases or cases that are concerning errors that were made down below.

SENATOR CROSBY: Oh, okay.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: The amount of child support. They aren't going to be decided major doctrines of law, expanding the constitutionality of our Constitution or of statutes. By law, by our Constitution, they can't hear a murder case or a capital case. So how they're going to take care of the backlog is they're going to be able to deal with all those cases that are ready to be heard right now, but there just physically isn't...

SENATOR CROSBY: Um-huh.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...the body there to...

SENATOR CROSBY: So what they're trying to do is set somewhat a priority system, in a way, as you say, based on errors in the decisions having to do with things that are not the broad spectrum of the law or to change a law, right?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: They are going to deal with the matters that are assigned to them from the Supreme Court.

SENATOR CROSBY: Now you answered...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Most of those are going to be errors.

SENATOR CROSBY: Now you answered one of my questions when you explained who decides what goes to the appellate judges. A lawyer, or whoever is making the appeal, doesn't appeal directly to those...to that appellate group.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Not at all.