

indefinitely postpone.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Motion fails. Back to the discussion on 586 and its possible advancement. Senator Chizek.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, when the bill was brought to the committee there were a number of us that had some concerns. We felt that the amendment that we had adopted earlier dealt with some of the concerns that some of the members expressed. There were some concerns expressed by, obviously, some of the district court judges. Senator Chambers had mentioned one. I'm not sure that I would describe the court as crusty, "codgey" individuals. But I can tell you that we have a problem, and Senator Chambers says seven of them. I have oftentimes heard as...members of the court referred to as anchored angels. I somewhat disagree with that also, Senator Chambers. But we have a backlog, we have a problem that needs to be addressed. This is a temporary solution. I think the committee, in good conscience, tried to deal with the problem that exists. You can pick holes in the procedure, in this temporary solution, if you want. I certainly disagree with some of the opinions that come from the district court and some from the Supreme Court, but that's not what my support of this particular piece of legislation is about. It's not whether I agree or disagree with opinions, it's not whether I agree or disagree when a judge sends a minor to the Penitentiary in this state, that's not what it's about. It's about a problem with 500 cases of backlog and the people that suffer are the people that are going to the Supreme Court in this state, that's who is suffering. And I think that this particular piece of legislation will help deal with the backlog, and bear in mind it's a temporary solution. So I would ask that you recognize what the problem is. I don't sit in the court day in and day out. I can't tell you how hard they work. I can tell you that facts and figures that I've seen don't lie, and we've got a problem and this bill addresses the problem and I would urge your support of the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. I think it's important for us to look at what the backlog really does right now. Our Supreme Court, if you look at the handout here that has a couple of different graphs on it, you'll see numbers of opinions. And our court right now is issuing, oh, we're about two years behind.