

time period. If it, in fact, takes the Supreme Court, once they begin a case, a period of time, a long period of time, how long, the question has not been asked in the body, how long would it take this intermediate process, this temporary process, how long would it take for these district court judges to study a case, to analyze the case thoroughly, to have enough information at their fingertips and at their disposal to make a reasonable decision? How long will that take? If it, in fact, takes a good, long period of time, will they, in fact, be able to have that significant an impact on the backlog cases...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...in the very short period of time that we're giving them, until December of 1991, until it's sunsetted? I suspect what might happen is that in many cases the sunset that we have in December, 1991, may not be a sunset, it simply may be removed and we'll have this discussion, how can we have a sunset while we haven't come to a conclusion yet of how to solve the problem and we still have a backlog. My concern is that 586 will not necessarily solve the problem that we would all like to do. And my concern is also that the Legislature will support the measure because it's the only one in town without deciding whether or not the only measure in town will, in fact, solve the problem we want to do. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I'm not going to try to keep this bill from getting a vote today. And after listening to the body, they're going to support the bill because Judge Hastings wants it, then when the salary increase come up he wants that, too, so maybe I won't spin my wheels on that one and just let you go in and give them what they want. But it's kind of interesting that this Legislature is of a frame of mind to say that if certain responsibilities are given to an individual, and he doesn't do his job, you give him more people to do the work he's supposed to do, that's the incentive not to get down and do what they're supposed to do. Nothing in this bill tells us what criteria will be used to select these judges, other than that they may be retired or they may be active; maybe from the district court, maybe retired Supreme Court judges. Senator Chizek did make a Freudian slip, he mentioned the problems that exist in the court system, and he said "people who suffer are those who go to the