

agricultural sector, which did happen, and a lot of those distressed farmers came to believe that their greatest enemies were the lawyers, the judges, and the court system, that amorphous entity, the court system. We have to consider the kind of problems that have actually confronted people in this state when it came to trying to get justice through the courts, the amount of money that it would cost, the difficulty of even getting it to court, and now we are going to build, not only a different layer, an additional layer of appeal, which, if you are lucky, you can go through, but for most people, it will be the final appeal, the final appeal. I can be sympathetic to the judges, but suppose we, as a Legislature, were to say we have so many bills that our constituents give to us that we cannot deal with all of them, so we are going to let committees make the final determination, except in cases that deal with the expenditure of money or the enhancement of punishments, such as, the imposition of the death penalty. Other than that, committees will be the final determinant because we have too much work, and that is what we give to the people, and most people won't be aware of what we have done until they begin to see something that happened that might be brought to their attention that impact on them personally, then they will say, why was this done and how did it happen? And politicians will say, you didn't pay attention, and their proper response will be, your job is to represent me and look out for my interest. There are a lot of things that happen in the legislative system and in the judicial system that I, as a citizen, am not aware of, and were I aware of them, I might not even understand them. You were the one who sat there and listened to it, and not only watched it happen, but helped it to happen. You ought to go to your constituents and ask them how many of them are willing to give up the absolute right to appeal to the Supreme Court, and don't downplay it. Tell them that right now, whether it is a civil matter or criminal matter, they have an absolute right under the Constitution to have that matter appealed to the Supreme Court. How many of them are willing to give that up and no longer have that right based on a constitutional guarantee, and the only thing they are getting in exchange is the creation of a new court of nine judges, which will be divided into three sections, and their final appeal will not be to the Supreme Court or even to that entire appellate court sitting as a court but three of the judges. Ask them that. That is as clearly as I can present it to you and I defy anybody to stand on this floor who supports this and say that I have misrepresented anything. I have read this proposal they are offering, and I am