

familiar with the bill because I have discussed it with the State Court Administrator, and he flatly told me that the reason the bill was introduced is so that people could see what form that court would take. And part of the reason for that, I think, is that it will take some blame and heat off the Supreme Court because they can say the Legislature knew; this was not done like a pig in a poke, we laid it out there and it was discussed on the floor of the Legislature,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and everyone of them knew. Did you say time?

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Everyone of them knew that the absolute right to appeal to the Supreme Court was being taken away. They all knew that, and despite knowing it, they voted and put this matter on the ballot. And if it gets on the ballot, then I assure you that lawyers throughout this state will marshal all the forces that they have, as will the Bar Association, which spoke in favor of this, will be out there pushing for its acceptance and ratification. If the general hostility toward lawyers will come into play, that will ensure its defeat, but on the chance they get savvy enough to hire an agency that pushes for the acceptance of constitutional amendments, they will win, and when they win, the public, in my opinion, will have lost.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time. Senator McFarland. Senator Abboud, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, and colleagues, last year the Judiciary Committee dealt with a number of different bills looking at the appellate court system in the State of Nebraska. Actually what we looked at wasn't the appellate court system in the State of Nebraska. What we looked at was the two-year delay that it takes an individual to be...an individual's court case to be decided by the Nebraska Supreme Court. And when they make an appeal from the district court level, it takes two years to have a final determination, it was my belief that we had to do something to deal with this problem. One of the most important responsibilities of the democratic system is to have a court system that is fair and open for the public so that there could be quick determination as to someone that has felt that they