

to debate things on the floor of the Legislature. We all come from different backgrounds. Lord, forbid, we don't want all lawyers in this body. We don't want all teachers. We don't want all farmers, Roger. We want a variety of people. Lumbermen, excuse me, Frank, I didn't mean to slight you. But that is what makes these bodies work and that is what makes the Supreme Court work, but somewhere in here we have got to decide which cases are going to go to the Supreme Court because, quite frankly, under the current system, it isn't going to work. We have a backlog of 500 cases right now and it is growing every year. They get about 1,200 appeals filed every year with them. They can only decide about 1,100 of those. Some of those are as serious as whether somebody is going to live or die. Some of them may be as important as did I get my garden hose in my divorce case. We laugh. The Nebraska Supreme Court has to handle all of those things, and it is important that somebody has the right. In no way, in absolutely no way does this constitutional amendment take away someone's right to an appeal, but what we are doing is we are going to create or give us the opportunity to create an appellate system where we can sort out the wheat from the chaff, and send the most important cases to the Nebraska Supreme Court and keep the other cases that are primarily error. When Senator Chambers talks about the Nebraska Supreme Court or in any appellate court solely making doctrinal and major decisions, yes, that is part of their job, but that is not entirely it. A lot of what they do is looking back on the record to see whether, for example, child support was correctly "computed" on the forms or whether the correct number of days in jail was counted, whether the clerk actually received some money or not. A lot of routine things are done. Under the current system, we wait two years. You wait two years to hear if you are going to get your settlement or your judgment that was awarded to you by the trial court. In your accident, the car accident case you may have, you wait two years. But you may wait two years to find out if your divorce is final. Can you imagine waiting two years to find out if you can start your life over again. It happens. Hopefully, most of us aren't going to ever go to the Nebraska Supreme Court with our case. Hopefully, you are not going to be involved in court. Some of us are more and more prone to be in court, but, quite frankly, you need the right to an appeal. We are guaranteeing the right to an appeal. If you will look at the constitutional amendment, it says you are going to get a right to appeal to the appellate court or the Supreme Court, and this body is going to decide what that is. It is not set in stone as to what that appellate court is going