

that many of those, what is this high-paid State Supreme Court going to be left to do. What are they going to be left with. What kind of work load will they have. Two categories of cases go up as a matter of right, and they can reject every other case if they want. They can improve their golf game. They can take in a little fishing. They can sit around and kibitz and watch baseball games, football games, whatever they want to. So what the court is trying to do, and I can understand this because it fits in with what I have said about how these other branches of government look out for themselves, they want as little work as possible. Let me tell you another thing that this Supreme Court did in this state that I feel is reprehensible. They agreed to allow lawyers who were representing indigent defendants, meaning poor defendants without money, the lawyer could move that that defendant's appeal be dismissed because it is frivolous. The Supreme Court, even though the lawyer was working against the interest of his or her client, agreed to let that lawyer get the case dismissed. It then took the federal court system to say that is wrong, that cannot be done, and everyone of these cases that you dismissed in that fashion will have to be redone. The Supreme Court, itself, cannot be trusted to operate in a just and fair manner without some kind of oversight, and I don't think this Legislature should buck every part of its responsibility to the federal court system saying, well, if they deprive somebody of their rights, let the federal courts correct it. When we are in a set of circumstances as we face today where we are talking about creating a new system which will deprive people of a right that they have had from time immemorial, we have the responsibility to do those things which will ensure justice. If the Supreme Court has the discretion to accept or reject cases that are civil, whose cases do you think will be accepted and whose will be rejected? Yours and mine will be rejected. Those of the phone company will be accepted. Those of Enron will be accepted. Those of ConAgra will be accepted. Those of the rich, the politically powerful, and the well-born will be given entree to...

SENATOR LABEDZ: One minute, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that elitist court, that Supreme Court in whose hands we are placing the power to slam the door on whomever they choose. There was a man named Ambrose Bierce or either it was Artemus Ward who was responding to the question as to whether or not a poor person had a chance for justice in these American courts. He said, sure, every poor man has got a