

any way? Increasing the number of judges sitting on the court would not, because they all have to act on each case don't they? Do they split the decisions up? So this could give them more people with less caseload then?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Are you asking me?

SENATOR SMITH: Yeah, I have an answer here but...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I happen to think that the additional nine judges is something that won't work...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...and in other states they have tried that, the nine didn't work, they went back to seven and used the intermediate court of appeals and, quite frankly, that's like adding two more senators to this body to deal with the number of bills.

SENATOR SMITH: Yeah.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I mean, it doesn't...it isn't going to work.

SENATOR SMITH: Because they also have to deal with it occasionally, don't they?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: They've got to read, and hear and do all those things as well.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, and then finally, I would like to have Senator Ashford, if he has, I don't have any more time, Senator Ashford, where is he? Senator Ashford, Senator Ashford. May I speak with Senator Ashford?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford, would you respond to a question, please?

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Ashford, I wish you'd put your...pardon?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Can you see me over here? Sorry. I'm sorry.

SENATOR SMITH: Would you respond to a question?