

Lindsay amendment to LR 8. All in favor of that motion please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 5 ayes, 23 nays on the adoption of the Lindsay amendment as amended, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion fails. The call is raised. Mr. Clerk, next item.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Chambers. (Chambers amendment appears on page 282 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Clerk, so that the record will disclose what the amendment consists of, would you read it as it is presented up there?

ASSISTANT CLERK: On page 2, line 1, strike "capital" and insert "criminal"; in lines 5 and 6, strike, "in all other cases, criminal or civil" and insert "In all civil cases".

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, what this amendment would do, if it's adopted, is ensure that all criminal cases would go to the Supreme Court. Anybody convicted in a criminal matter would have a right to appeal to the Supreme Court. The present status of the amendment would say, only in capital cases which means any criminal matter below a capital offense which would entail the death penalty would not entitle a person to go to the Supreme Court. Right now the Supreme Court expedites criminal cases. They have said repeatedly that the backlog, if I understand correctly, the backlog is not on the criminal side. So in order that I don't misstate something, I'd like Senator Kristensen, if he will, to respond to a question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kristensen, is it true that the court has indicated that it is caught up on its criminal appeals?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, criminal appeals are, as you