

suggest to you that because we make the kinds of decisions concerning judges that affect the laws they carry out, the pay that they receive, the retirement they receive, the structure of their courts, that it just seems to be almost unbelievable to me that we would not accept the obligation or the right to have some say as to who judges...the judges that are selected would be. So, with that, Mr. President, I would move my amendment to LR 8. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Kristensen, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Point of honor, Mr. Speaker. Order, I said, order.

SPEAKER BARRETT: State your point, Senator.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I believe that this amendment is not germane and would ask for a ruling of the Chair to declare it out of order.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, would you care to respond?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, just generally, I think what we're doing is creating a court in LR 8, a court which does not now exist, and it's certainly germane in that process to have...to be able to discuss and to add language that talks about how that court will be composed. So, it certainly seems to me to be...would be germane. Also, in addition to that, I believe that it would require a constitutional amendment to have the Legislature involved in the process in this way. So, again, these are two provisions which are tightly connected and which would require constitutional...or a vote of the people anyway. So, for that reason, I would think it would be germane.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The amendment offered by Senator Ashford does speak to an appointment to the appellate court. It is restricted to that court. It further states that those appointments shall be at the approval of the majority of the members, etcetera. It talks of confirmation by the Legislature. The amendment, according to our rules, appears to be in a natural and logical sequence to the subject matter of the original proposal. Pursuant to Rule 7, Section 3, subsection (d), it appears to the Chair that both the bill and