

the amendment offered have the same subject matter. In the opinion of the Chair, the amendment is germane. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to challenge the ruling of the Chair.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other comment at this point?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the amendment that Senator Ashford is providing to us talks about a whole different area. Now just because the words "appellate court" appear in his amendment doesn't open up Pandora's box. Nowhere in the constitutional amendment do we talk about the appointment of judges and about the process. It doesn't talk about how much they are paid. It doesn't talk about how long they shall serve. It talks merely about providing the right to an appeal and the structure of the court. This goes to the administration of the court which is a much broader and certainly a different subject matter area. If this ruling be followed, every time we have a bill that deals with the courts, with law enforcement, then any matter will be germane if it deals with criminal procedure. It will be germane if we talk about funds to expand that and to fund those things, and certainly under the matter of a subject, and I'm looking back at the rule now, a substantially different subject. The appellate court and the court system are a very broad subject. If we're going to interpret the germaneness rule that broadly, then I guess I want to make sure that that's what we're going to do and we know that's what the rules of the game are going to be from here on out.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Anyone else care to speak to the ruling? Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, on this occasion I agree wholeheartedly with the Chair, because if we look at the original bill and we look at the committee amendments, there is a discussion of the courts created in Article V, Section 1, of this Constitution. In Article I, Section 5, LR 8 has inserted the word "appellate court" so they are raising the issue of the appellate court in this constitutional amendment and that's what it deals with. Appellate courts must have judges. So all that this is doing is stating how those judges who must be on that court will be