

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Senator Kristensen, answer a question, please, on a laborer's level here.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Kristensen, would you respond?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: LR 8 is taking this appeal right away.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Is it taking away the right to an appeal? No.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay, but you're saying it is leaving the right to appeal with the decision of the Legislature.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It's changing and giving the Legislature the option of either having the appeal to the Supreme Court or to an appellate court.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And the Legislature could deny that right to appeal to the Supreme Court?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: They could shift that right to appeal from the Supreme Court to an appellate court, yes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: So, in other words, they could deny our right to go to the Supreme Court.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, they can...you call it denial of a right, the right is to appeal.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Right.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: You're making the assumption that judges in appellate court aren't as qualified and wouldn't make as good a decision. The key is they'd make them faster and it depends on the quality of judges. And that's a whole other...

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I am making an assumption that based on history of labor they have basically been shortchanged in appeals courts and have not, until years later, in Supreme Court, been awarded a proper decision. There is...this would be a litmus test to me as a laboring person because, if you want to study your history, there is...if I have to, first of all, if I