

PRESIDENT: Senator Lindsay, please.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I'd move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LR 8.

PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have an amendment to the resolution offered by Senator Chambers. (See Chambers amendment on page 572 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, please. Senator Chambers, may I introduce a guest, please, first, would that be okay with you. Okay. Under the north balcony, we have Elmer Oldenberg, Olberding, excuse me, and Al Stracka from Holt County with the Upper Elkhorn NRD, and these are guests of Senator Dierks. Would you fellows please stand and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Kristensen has some guests under the north balcony, Wilbur and Charlotte Nelson of Minden. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Chambers, we are down to you now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS. Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, this amendment that I am offering does a very simple thing, and in case anybody is going to follow it, there is on page 1 of the proposed constitutional amendment language stricken and it continues to the top of page 2, and the purpose of striking that language in the original bill as presented to us is to take away the right under the Constitution to appeal to the Supreme Court in cases of felony. In addition to having stricken that language, the bill, as presented to us, adds new language so that they can achieve this purpose. What my amendment would do is to reinstate the stricken language and strike the new language found at the top of page 2. That would restore the citizens, should this amendment make it to the ballot and be passed, it would restore to the citizens a right they currently have under the Constitution. I believe that any time a citizen runs the risk of being punished by the state in the form of being deprived of his or her freedom, and in some cases fined heavily, that citizen should have a right to a final appeal before the highest court in the state. To me, there are no issues more serious in a democracy than when a citizen stands opposed by his or her government charged with a crime, the