

are now and give them a little flexibility where flexibility is called for? And they said, well, no, well, yes, no, yeah, I guess we do but we need to change this and we need to tell them what we want to do. And now all of a sudden they're all good judges. So this is throwing a little confusion into the issue here and I'm waiting for those people to ask me why I don't support this to remind them what they said about their judges last year. So I support Senator Chambers' efforts and I oppose any chipping away at our constitutional rights and I think it's good that we have at least a few people that will stand up for those folks because I don't believe that the ends justify the means and I think there are better ways...Senator Kristensen, would answer one question, please?

PRESIDENT: Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I've heard a proposal, I believe it's Texas, and they have two Supreme Courts, one for civil, one for criminal. Are you aware of that? Is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I can't tell you off the top of my head. There are a state or two that does do that, yes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Was that proposal looked at in the studies?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And why was it not suggested that that might be one way to go?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: One of the problems with doing that is, is that you then become...have specialized Supreme Courts and that they will only deal with criminal cases and then with civil cases it also doubles the amount of appeals that are filed because you may have certain combinations of cases that could go either place. Those courts, as I understand it, always have the right if you want to appeal that one, the criminal panel, that you could then ask for a full hearing by an ultimate court of appeals which would maybe be the Supreme Court. In effect, that is another layer and that's the reason that they don't look at that here. They also like the idea in this state, and I think most states it's rare that you would have two...