

money and they're there to make money, that's the only reason. There is no other profession allowed total and absolute control over itself in the way that the legal profession has been turned over to the lawyers. Judges are just lawyers too. They wear gowns, robes, dresses, whatever you want to call them.

PRESIDENT: Time. Thank you. Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Let's take a good look at what Senator Chambers just got done telling you. You don't have a right to an appeal, you don't have a right to appeal, your farmers are just not going to get that rightful appeal. "In all other cases", and I'm reading from LR 8, "criminal or civil, the right of appeal shall be as provided by law subject to the absolute right of an aggrieved party of one to appeal to a court authorized by or created pursuant to Article V, section 1, of this Constitution." It mandates that they're going to get their right to an appeal. You in no way are trampling on those rights, and that is just not true. Senator Chambers also talked about if one of these panels were...had such a real bad decision, if it's such a horrible, bad decision, those cases are still eligible to be appealed up to the Supreme Court. Under the bill that's down in committee right now, they are not going to be thrown out without their right to say, hey, this was a terrible, lousy appeal. Look at LB 942. It will talk to you. What we're trying to do is have a constitutional framework that guarantees the absolute right only goes to the most important cases. Now what's the most important function of the Supreme Court? Obviously if somebody's life is at issue, capital cases. No issue there at all, no doubt at all. We all agree about that. The other one is for the courts to have a check on us, to make sure that we're not trampling the rights of people by passing unconstitutional laws. That's the old balance and separation of powers, the system of checks and balances. The court is going to look at the actions of the Legislature to determine their constitutionality. Now that constitutionality may come about in many, many ways. Maybe it's a bill that deals with possession of drugs. Maybe it's a bill that deals with how we value our farm property. Maybe it's a bill dealing with regulation of telephones. Maybe it's a bill that places an institution in the University of Nebraska system. Tons and tons of those sorts of cases are still important. This is not, as it is portrayed, to make the judges sit back and have nothing to do. And if there is no other way to attack it, you can probably attack the messenger, and that's okay. I don't