

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Langford.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. President and members of the body, I have some questions and I don't know whether to ask Senator Chambers or whether to ask Senator Kristensen, but I, too, have some of the same concerns that Senator Chambers does and that's why I voted with him on the last amendment, but I think this one might be a slightly different situation and I guess the key questions in my mind are, over whom does this court have jurisdiction? It is my impression that it is public employees solely, like policemen, firemen, teachers, et cetera. I may be wrong and I would like to be corrected. I would like somebody to tell me who the court has jurisdiction over and then, secondly, with what kinds of issues does the court deal? Does it deal with solely collective bargaining issues, which I think is the case, but they deal solely with collective bargaining issues and, if so, then, Senator Chambers, can you foresee a real need for a Supreme Court intervention here? I'm trying to think of situations in which people's rights might be trampled or whatever, there might be constitutional issues involved. I'm trying to make an informed decision on this and I'm having a hard time doing it. So if anybody can answer.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, would you respond?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Chambers. Senator Kristensen.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Senator Schimek, I want to read to you what the jurisdiction of the current commission is, and I think that's what Senator Chambers was trying to get at earlier is that this section of the Constitution allows you to create a commission, then we decide what it's going to do, but currently what the commission does is its jurisdiction is over disputes involving government service which could be teachers, school boards, firemen, county or city or whatever. It also is the service of a public utility and that they shall be solved by invoking the jurisdictions so it's a pretty limited...what we have is a limited jurisdiction of our Court of Industrial Relations. Senator Ashford, I don't see him, I think he has been involved in that Court of Industrial Relations quite intimately, but those are the jurisdictional powers that they have. I think Senator Chambers could probably address your