

guarantee of an appeal to the highest court in the state for those accused by the state of serious offenses, I believe the Legislature has a responsibility to see that that right remains intact and inviolate. If the public feels that something needs to be done, with reference to the Supreme Court's work load, there is a procedure available, a self-executing procedure in the Constitution itself. That is the right of initiative. The Legislature need not enact any laws. The Constitution itself creates that right, guarantees that right, executes it so that any citizen or collection of citizens could start an initiative petition to do anything they choose with reference to the makeup of the Supreme Court, its responsibilities and duties, or any other aspect of that court. There has not been an outcry any place in the society, except from the judges. And once the judges cried out, the lawyers echoed it. That's what lawyers are, little sir and madam echo. The Supreme Court says, too heavy work load, too heavy work load, then the third time the court says, too heavy work load, and from the lawyers we hear, work load, work load, work load, mindlessly, without a thought, because their bosses told them that this is what they must do. Lawyers and others who would sit on the Judicial Qualification Commission, the commission that selects judges, are afraid, are terrified of casting a public vote because they fear reprisals from judges, should one be nominated against whom one of these people on the commission who would have to appear before that judge may have voted. When we get to the point where, as Senator Moore will say on occasion, rubber meets the road, we begin to see the true dynamics of how this system operates. We are made privy to the pettiness, the vindictiveness of these people who put on dresses and call themselves judges. When we're discussing a bill in the abstract, as we are Senator Kristensen's bill, Senator Kristensen will say the judges who will make up the appellate court are no less...are not inferior in ability to those who would sit on the Supreme Court. In other words, they're high-minded men because we know under the present system no women are going to be appointed to that court, no black people are going to be appointed to that court, so white men, how petty and vindictive, when they become judges they will be. And those were arguments given against advancing a bill that would require public voting and selecting the people whose names would be sent on to the Governor to be made judges. The rubber met the road at that point, and those people said that it might be against the interests of somebody who'd vote for one of these people, vote against one of these people who would wind up being a judge. We have the inconsistent...