

bill that would have retained only felony cases on appeal, a substantial...more than 60 percent of the backlog would still be subject to this bill, is that true?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, but I don't think you could...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would you answer that question, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: That would be true.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Then on your time, because I don't want mine to run out before I make a comment to Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wehrbein, the amendment that I offered the other day that was so unceremoniously, overwhelmingly voted down would have winnowed out over 60 percent of the cases that make up the backlog. That seems to me to be quite a straining and sorting out of cases. You get rid of over 60 percent at one fell swoop, while at the same time retaining for the people a right they already have. My amendment...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: One minute you said? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment, relative to felony appeals, was not giving to people something they don't already have. It was not putting something into the Constitution, it was maintaining or retaining what is already there. LR 8 takes that right of appeal to the Supreme Court out of the Constitution. And it also, Senator Wehrbein, would take away from those farmers who might be distressed and think that they have a right to appeal to the Supreme Court, who think they have a right, under the Constitution, would find themselves to be sadly mistaken, because this bill takes away that right as guaranteed by the Constitution. If the Supreme Court looked out and said, well, Farmer Brown has a case and I think we'll listen to his or hers, there might be a chance to get before the Supreme Court. But, even if that happens, they'd have to go through the layer of the appellate court, which they don't currently have to do, which would be more expense, which they currently don't have to be subject to.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time. Before recognizing Senator Wehrbein, the Chair is pleased to note that Senator Schmit has some guests in the south balcony. We have 14 juniors and seniors from David City with their teacher. Would you people please stand and be