

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I have faith in the system that selects judges and the discretion of the Governor to choose the right person to be a judge, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you're saying there will be a better quality of person serving as a judge. Is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Not a better quality. I think we'll have the same high quality we have now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then the quality of justice will not improve if the quality of people dispensing it is not above that which we have right now. Is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, that's not correct. The quality of justice will improve because one is the Supreme Court will have more time to adequately examine and decide cases of common law and interpretation and allow them to do the precedential value that the Supreme Court is supposed to do while allowing a quicker disposition of error cases, that being mistakes at trial, that will be done by the appellate court. The system benefits by that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So are you saying that with the present system the judges who sit on the Supreme Court are not able to produce work up to the level of the quality that they are capable of producing?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I think that because of the huge quantity of work that they're not doing as good as they could because of the sheer volume of time, I don't think they're making wrong decisions but I think that you substantially impair the ability for good, precedential law.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So the quality of work done by the Supreme Court up to date has been inferior to what it will be with this appellate court system. Is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, that's not correct. The word "inferior" is not correct. I think the quality will be...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is it equal? Is it...oh, it's better? It will be better?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It will get better quality of time to