

not to take. One of the other discretions that the Supreme Court has is that they can take cases based on the backlog in caseload. For example, if the appellate court is getting swamped and they're having trouble with backlog, the Supreme Court can call those cases up. We call that pull-up jurisdiction. They can pull them up and so they can regulate the caseload with that procedure in that manner. That's one way of putting into statute some protections for having the Supreme Court not busy. So Senator Chambers will make the comments that they're going to get lazy, they're not going to do anything. Well, the provisions are in there for them to...they're the ultimate in terms of responsibility for the system of justice in this state, in terms of judicial justice. It's their responsibility to make sure that we speed these cases along as fast as we can. There's a national standard of six months for an appeal. That's the national standard. Right now we're at 24 months. We're four times that. The Supreme Court has still got that obligation to bring that up to speed and to do that in a timely fashion. Section 6 and Section 7 talk about petitions that could be brought up. It would be my intent that when a case is filed that asks for a bypass...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...that the court not have to look at all the record. In other words, they don't have to decide the case ahead of time. There should be docketing statements, things that could be done by rule, a docketing statement that could say, this is the reason the Supreme Court should hear this case. Similar to what the United States Supreme Court does, we call that certiorari. Certiorari is the...is that Latin, Senator Chambers? Latin that is bring up the record, bring the records to me, where the Supreme Court says, yes, we want to hear this case, we want to examine it. We're not going to say how we're going to rule but we want to look at it. That's, in effect, what this Supreme Court will have the ability to do. The other options were, one, we could have done nothing and let the Supreme Court try to battle with the backlog and watch it go up to three years. That's not a viable option and it's not a good option. The other option was to put all the cases with the Supreme Court and let the cases, the lesser cases just dump them down into the appellate court. The problem is that puts more burden on the Supreme Court.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.