

to the Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court then takes into some considerations, I've added a clarifying sentence into that, the official report of the Nebraska Supreme Court is the additional language that I've put on line 10. The other one that I have is a general savings clause. I would point out to you on the bottom of my amendment, 1034, it says here, in all cases which were appealable to the Supreme Court before the effective date of this act, the appeal, if any, if taken shall be to the Court of Appeals, except in capital cases, and in cases where life imprisonment has been imposed, and the cases involving the constitutionality of the statute. That's just a general savings clause. I've spent almost 181 pages saying that appeals that were going to go to the Supreme Court now, by statute, go to the appellate court. In case we've missed anything, this is a savings clause, so the system will still function with that. This is the first amendment that I have. To me this is more of a cleanup amendment. This establishes some of the things I think we needed to do, since we've been looking at the bill since January. I do have a second amendment, that deals with the number of judges, and that is one that you might want to pay attention to even closer than you would this amendment. With that, I'd be happy to answer any questions.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Is there any discussion of the Kristensen amendment? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, if I may, just a couple of questions.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I wanted just to get on record a little bit some of your thoughts with regard to the notion of precedent, and the precedent that will be established by the decisions of this particular Court of Appeals. You and I know the district courts look to the higher courts for prior decisions in trying to determine how they should decide a case that is at hand. And, of course, the Supreme Court decisions have always been the kind of precedent that the district courts look to as authority, and lawyers look to as authority in order to determine or to argue their cases at the district court level, and at the county court level. Now we have a new court of appeals, and the question comes up, what is there...what is there...what is the status of their decisions. And, as you know, the bill doesn't really talk about that particular question, and so my question