

part of the Legislature. There's clearly a precedent. It's been done and I suspect that in the future it will be done again. So I don't think that's a valid reason not to...or a valid reason to oppose the amendment. The question is, and it still comes back to, is the caseload there? Does that...how many judges do we need to handle that caseload? And what's the best way to get a...to get the cases handled in an efficient and in a just manner? I think the situ...the manner in doing that, I think the first choice would be to have the nine judges immediately, but a second choice and I think an acceptable method is the method that Senator Kristensen has offered. I'm going to support the second half of the Kristensen amendment. If it is defeated, then I will oppose the first half.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. The next speaker is Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, a question of Senator Kristensen if I could.

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, let's say we get up to another 150 filings under the provisions of your bill which will likely be in two years, two or three years under the current...if the statistics you're giving us are accurate, which I assume they are. Once the authority to appoint that one judge that's there, isn't it true that you could add two retired judges and in two years time have a third panel of three?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I don't think that that's realistic because those, as per the amendment we adopted yesterday, those are for temporary vacancies.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Which language did you put in to lines 18-21 on page 5 that would make it temporary? Maybe I didn't mark the green copy correctly, but I don't see that there is any relationship between your amendment and making those temporary.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: On page 5, in Section 3, yesterday we adopted an amendment...I'm sorry I'm on your time, but we looked on line 17, we put in the word "temporary".

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right, but that's not the sentence that applies to retired judges being called to serve on additional