

sort of cases that can be dealt with here and whether or not between now and Select File you might be open to some sort of widening of the type of cases that are under consideration.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Landis, you have about two and a half minute, three and a half minutes.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. And I would (recorder skipped) that. You will notice that in that description we talk about civil claims and disputes and in using that language it was not our intent to close off the range of civil and business and consumer-related disputes and contractual disputes along the lines that you're bringing up, but rather distinguishing that from criminal complaints, so that we're not mediating criminal disputes. That is an appropriate matter of litigation courts, a higher standard of evidence. There is a social value there that society needs to be protected by the relationship of the...of the fact finder and the court's role there. In the event I have, by making that distinction, not been clear enough and making this a broad opportunity for contractual disputes, for consumer complaints, for parties to contracts who interpret them differently, for those kinds of traditional commercial relationships where, look, I've always delivered on the...by the 15th of the month, maybe the contract says the 1st of the month but I've always done it for the last six months on the 15th, isn't the 15th going to be okay? Those kinds of commercial disputes, I think, would also profit by the low cost, more quickly arrived at solution through mediation. I would be happy to consider an attempt to clarify that inside the civil dispute system we're talking about a very broad range of opportunity and by impli...not by implication but by explicit language being a little clearer as to what that might include. And I do want to make one response to Senator Schmit but I also want to give your time back to you, Senator Withem.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem, you have about a minute and a half.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, and I won't use all of that so I will give it back to Senator Landis. But I just, in reading the description of disputes between neighbors, landlord and tenants, within communities, I was fearful that that might have been too restrictive. Maybe your intent clarifies it enough, maybe we need some additional language, but I very much appreciate your comments and give the rest of my time back to you.