

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, good.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Don't take all my time though.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, then that's a whole other matter. They follow the law. What you failed to tell the body though, Senator Haberman, is what really does occur and that you can pull out an editorial by one paper and run with it and say, ah, here's my chance to bash the judges and you can certainly do that. But what Senator Haberman doesn't tell you is what does occur, and what does occur, on occasion, on occasion, not very often, they have an opinion where they call it the per curiam. Per curiam, do you know what that means, Senator Haberman?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Go ahead, you're explaining.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Per curiam means by the court. Now that means that there were no dissenting opinions by the court, it meant the court itself decided the case. Now are each individual names saying, yes, I agree to this, yes, I agree to this, yes, I agree to that? No, they're not spelled...the names are not physically written out but per curiam is by the court, it means that the court itself, as a body, made the decision. And it means there are no dissenting opinions. That means everybody agreed with it, which means that they do follow that. They put in there, you, an editorial writer, have the opportunity to take a little rip at the court and you can do so but the law is being followed, Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Senator Kristensen, is that in the statute...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...that they can do that?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It's been a common law...

SENATOR HABERMAN: Is it in the statute?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It's not in the statute, it's been in common law for as long as this state's been around and it's been in part of the judicial system for, oh, hundreds of years, per curiam. It's...it's a commonly used common law term that judges for a long, long time have used.