

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, when we were discussing the committee amendments, Senator Kristensen indicated he had some concerns with the appeal to the Supreme Court, and that those appeals would move ahead of all other cases. This amendment simply changes the final line in that subsection on page 23 of the committee amendments. It says that, and the Supreme Court shall expedite such appeal. That way if there are criminal or civil cases in front of it, those will be still dealt with, but it allows the court to expedite these appeals and, hopefully, in a timely and orderly fashion, and not jump ahead of all other cases as some of the senators have indicated to me they have some concerns with that. So in hopes of compromising on that, I've talked with Senator Kristensen about it, and I think it clears up some areas he had some concerns on. That is the extent of the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Rod Johnson. Discussion on the amendment, Senator Abboud? He waives off. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I support the Johnson amendment, and I think that this then puts those committee amendments into a form that is workable for us to deal with. And, Senator Johnson, I don't know what approach you will use now that the Dierks amendment has been added onto it, but we will look to you for some guidance in that area. But I think that this is a good amendment, one that if we put it on, otherwise if we start to have statutes that says every case is first, and if every case, by statute, is first, somewhere the Supreme Court is going to have to disobey the law. Whatever happened to Senator...who was after that, but, anyway, I think this is a good thing to do and we will make the law consistent with expedited cases in a number of other matters, and I support the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Morrissey, on the amendment offered by Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: A question of Senator Johnson.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Rod Johnson, would you respond, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I am looking through my copy of the