

SENATOR ASHFORD: I'm trying to get a grip exactly on what this person would do. I have a little problem in understanding how we can suggest that \$50,000 or even \$95,000 would pay the cost of this person looking at the bill itself because of the potential responsibilities that he or she may have in that job and I'm trying to understand exactly what those responsibilities would be. If you look at the bill, and I tried to follow the committee amendments and your explanation, but if you look at the green copy of the bill on page 3, is paragraph 2 or subparagraph 2, it's still there, the counsel may provide legal representation to any member of the Legislature or staff member on matters arising in the course of such person's legislative responsibilities?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Okay. I think, and there is some other language that we can talk about, thanks, Senator Kristensen. I understand what Senator Chambers is saying and also what Senator Kristensen is saying and possibly the committee amendments do have a positive impact on the bill, but I have a hard time understanding a couple of concepts. First, the attorney-client privilege of the Legislature with this attorney. That's assuming that the Legislature is one, in a sense, a collective one person or a collective single entity. The Legislature is made up of several individuals who may have several legal problems and questions that he or she may ask of this legal counsel. That is one concern I have. Is the idea of attorney-client privilege and how it applies to the...and how that whole issue of confidentiality plays out as it arises out of that attorney-client privilege and we're dealing with 49 separate potential clients and one individual. I'm not sure about the...we'll have to talk about it when we get to the bill about whether or not the Attorney General's Office is adequately providing legal service to the Legislature. I have a tendency to think that that opinion may be based a little bit on perception of the individual senator who has had dealings with a particular Attorney General that we may be satisfied or dissatisfied with an Attorney General based upon the opinions that he or she may or may not give to us. So we'll have to talk about that when we get to the bill and try to understand it. But at this point I am...I'm having a hard time understanding, first of all, the attorney-client privilege and how that relates to 49 separate senators and secondarily I'm having a problem understanding how a \$50,000 attorney can handle the legal