

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I didn't hear everythin Senator Kristensen said because I was out in the hall, and then when I came back in I didn't pick it all up. But one thing he said that is crystal clear in my mind, if he said this, ...Senator Kristensen, let me be sure I heard you correctly. Did I hear you to say that when words such as this are put into the constitution, the court will give meaning to those words and could arrive at a conclusion other than that intended when the words are put there?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely, Senator Chambers, I mean my fear is that...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, don't steal my thunder. I want to tailgate.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I'd rather be the lightning, but you can be the thunder, okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (Laugh.) And when you get "toonder" and lightning you're in trouble, as Floyd Patterson found out with Ingemar Johansson, the first time they met. But at any rate, when I begin to give my reasoning on a proposition such as this I stated that I lose the body, in my opinion. I don't think people pay attention, but I think they will listen to Senator Kristensen. And I think by tailgating on Senator Kristensen, I might be able to get a few seconds of attention. What courts have stated is that whenever words are in a constitution, those words are deemed to have meaning, they are not deemed to be redundant or simple verbiage, even if those who put them there may intend them to serve that purpose just to placate one of our colleagues. The court will say since the Legislature has put this language in the constitution and this language modifies existing language in the constitution its intent is to change the meaning of that language which it modifies. And since it makes a reference to initiative and referendum the court is going to put all of that that is passed with this proposition in the context of modifying initiative and referendum. Words in the constitution have a meaning. Words should always have a meaning when we debate on the floor, but we know they don't. A