

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease on the Kristensen amendment to the committee amendment? All those in favor of ceasing debate signify by voting aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Speaker, could we have a call of the house and I would accept call-in votes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 23 ayes, 0 nays to go under call.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Call-in votes have been authorized.

CLERK: Senator Abboud voting yes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Debate is ceased. The call is raised. Senator Kristensen, you are recognized to close.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, this particular amendment makes a substantive change in the committee amendment which, in effect, changes the bill and does the following thing. The bill, the green copy of the bill, provides for a county match. In other words, the counties will participate to some degree and that would be matched by state funds. Because of the inability to develop an equitable formula for use of those funds, this amendment makes it entirely state funded, would eliminate a cash fund...or a litigation support fund that would send monies directly back to the counties. What would be left would be a state-funded support staff of probably four to five counsel to do indigent defense. It wouldn't cover every county, it can't with that, about a half million dollars worth of resources that I plan to put on the A bill, that you could only do the areas probably the worst or the ones that needed it the most. And, to that extent, I'm willing to work on areas of some restriction or I'm willing to work on what types of cases, if we want to spell that out