

public and tries to write in opinions what he thinks will get him votes. This opinion, as it is called, is not well-reasoned, it is not that well researched and when you come to an opinion given by a court where there is a lot of language, some of that language is not necessary to the decision that is reached by the court. It's called dicta, meaning that it is explanatory terminology by the court. It includes observations, suggestions and even some reasoning, but when we talk about a statute we're dealing with something different from a naked constitutional provision. A statute is enacted pursuant to words in the Constitution, as was our expenses bill, and the fact that Senator Witek can read things from an opinion, written by the Attorney General, should not be enough to cause us to do what it is Senator Bromm says we ought to do. If you disagree with the proposal which Senator Bromm is trying to strike, that is one thing, but if the only reason you're doing it is because the Attorney General, in one of these traditionally and typical slipshod opinions, says you've got to do it, I think that is a mistake. I don't want him legislating anymore than I want the Governor's Office controlling our appropriation process. There are people on this floor who are able to think even if they...

SENATOR LINDSAY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...haven't been trained in the law and they can use logic; they can read the Constitution; they, if they want to take the time, can read the court cases cited by the Attorney General and they may arrive at a different conclusion from that of the Attorney General. Remember, he has said, on numerous occasions, things are unconstitutional only to be shown totally wrong when the matter was litigated. So rather than have it change just because the Attorney General offered one of his political opinions, I think the matter ought to be discussed on the basis of the merit, or lack of merit, if you're opposed to it, of the proposition before us.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Before we move to the next speaker, Senator Engel announces that he has guests in the Legislature under the north balcony, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Criss with their children, David, Michael, Jennifer and Richard from Homer. If you could please rise and be recognized by your Legislature. And on the Bromm amendment, Senator Pirsch, followed by Senators Schimek, Avery, Bromm, Maurstad, Dierks, Witek, Bernard-Stevens and Kristensen.