

were getting nowhere. And I don't mind doing that. I've talked to you about the expenses we have. And I'm ashamed that we get them. I'm glad that we can get them and I'm going to try to get everything else for us that we're entitled to have. Now when I look at these responses that we got and the auditor says the Legislature should be told no, then from the Attorney General I would further point...oh, while I can sympathize with individual senators, statewide constitutional officers represent 48 times as many constituents and this should be given appropriate weight in space allocation decisions. That's crazy, we're the most numerous, actually powerful branch of government. We give better representation through the makeup of our body than any single officer who is called a constitutional officer. You can see how those individuals will lean to one particular special interest group or the other. Individual members here might do this, do that, but it's not in the hands of one member to make a decision that binds everybody, as is the case with these constitutional officers. So that response by the Attorney General is a nonresponse and is designed to be as insulting to the Legislature and disregardful of us as he is to the Supreme Court and other judges when he writes his briefs. All of that is nonsensical and there's no need in us even becoming upset about it because the determination of how these issues are to be resolved is in our hands. We are the ones who must be in this building. A Chamber, two of them were built in this building because the Legislature was supposed to be here from the beginning. You can't show an office or any space that was specifically designed for all eternity for any constitutional officer. I think that the needs of the Legislature should be met. We won't give ourselves the amount of money to work with that we allow to other branches of government.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: We don't get the salary that the rest of them get. The least that we can provide ourselves with when necessary is the tools necessary to do our job, the space necessary to do our job. And Senator Kristensen did touch on some uncomfortable things that might arise, but we have to deal with those. I support Senator Hall's amendment and I think it's very reasonable. And we need to look again at ourselves as an institution, a branch of government and the responsibility that we have to leave something for those who follow us.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, I