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FLOOR DEBATE

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seriously what it is that they're doing. Now, they may dislike the ALR program. They may dislike the fact that the Attorney General bucks it to them. But they are not getting back at the Attorney General. They're not getting back at whoever put the ALR program in place. They are telling the Legislature that we are going to bind you to go along with our irresponsible unjustified way of billing the state. They can attempt to get anything from us they want to. Senator Combs, a person could come to the Claims Board and say, I was walking down the street, and I looked at the face of a building, and I saw a statue on it, and it's a state building, and it looked like these people were nude. And because I was looking at that statute, I veered off the sidewalk and was hit by a car, and I want the state to pay all my bills for my injuries, I want them to pay for pain and suffering, and everything else. Well, they could bring that claim, but it would be denied. A person can file any lawsuit in court he or she chooses. But if it's frivolous, it will be thrown out. So judges can use any methodology they choose. And if the Legislature goes along with it, that's what will be...that's what will happen. But if the Legislature, or the committee whose job it is to sift through this stuff, decides that it was not handled in a way that accords with our responsibility in disbursing taxpayers' money, we will not grant it. And that person can take action in any other form that he or she might think is available. But here's what we have also done. Some claims that had been denied by the Claims Board, we have looked at it, listened to what was presented to us, and decided that, well, this claim does have merit, and we will pay it. It is not as easy as it might seem to handle these claims if you take this seriously. So if anybody on the floor had seen a long list, as you see here, of no... "NA" could be "no answer." And every single case is the exact same dollar amount, and you know that the exact same amount of time is not taken, this is not acceptable. Senator Mines might turn in his reimbursement for \$1,000. And I say, say, hmm, that's what I'd like to get, so I write down \$1,000.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And they say, well, Ernie, why are you doing that? I say, well, you gave Senator Mines that much. They say,