

unconstitutional than the Abboud amendment that has been adopted and was pointed out by Senator Landis. The question here is how do we want to go about this? How do we want to deal with it? Do I think that Don Stenberg or Allen Beermann or Governor Nelson, who is in wholehearted support of this measure, will delay any rules and regs that will be promulgated? Based on the way that this bill has been lobbied, I would guess that the rules and regs might already be in draft form. Knowing some of the folks who are so diligent in the Workers' Compensation Court, I would think that that process would be extremely quick and speedy in terms of how it would be handled. I don't, in any fashion, see this as a delay. If you do categorize it as a delay, what are you delaying? You're delaying for purposes of informing. You're delaying for purposes of informing individuals about the process and what is out there and what you're doing is you're totally changing procedures for purposes of how we handle workers' compensation. I do not think that the rules and regulations process that we go through for every other agency are so onerous that they can't be used in the Workers' Compensation Court. I think it's good public policy to say we're going to be open and go through this procedure for purposes of how we handle the Workers' Compensation Court. It is not an issue of a judicial branch or separation of powers issue. The Workers' Compensation Court had to be specifically exempted because folks understood that they were, at best, a quasi-judicial arm or body and had to be addressed and exempted. All we're doing here is saying they're not exempted. Because of the changes, the magnitude of the changes that we're making in LB 757, we want to let people know what is going to happen, what is going on, what changes are going to be made. We're going to use the APA as the process that we have chosen and put in statute for every other agency that promulgates rules and regs. They ought to apply as well to the Workers' Comp Court. I believe that it's an amendment that does nothing more than allows for more open and informed government, more participation on the part of the individuals who are going to be affected by it and I would urge adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I have a...oh, is Senator Landis near? Oh, I have a question of Senator Landis. He said he was smoking his pipe. I'm going to see if I can pull a little smoke out of the top of his head.