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SENATOR BEUTLER: A little bit, Senator Chambers. Go ahead.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If a judge pleads guilty or no contest to a crime punishable as a felony, why, in your opinion, should there be merely a suspension without salary rather than removal? If a lawyer is convicted of a felony can the lawyer be disbarred?

SENATOR BEUTLER: If the lawyer is convicted of a felony he can certainly be disbarred, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that if we are dealing with a judge and he or she pleads guilty to a felony or is convicted of a felony, there should just be a suspension?

SENATOR BEUTLER: The provision is for a suspension with pay?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Without pay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Without pay, well I think in part, Senator Chambers, you have to look at this in historical perspective and I think part of what you have to recognize is that what we are doing to judges through this bill is more than we have ever been able to do before in terms of strict disciplinary action and I guess I look at it with that kind of perspective. I don't know what the prior rules have been except that I know we haven't been able to get this far, as far as disciplining judges is concerned.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well we can do something else but let's strike some of this language. If you go down further and the judge who is involved in a felony takes an appeal and the action becomes final...oh, on page 4 of the committee amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, the time is up but as he...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well then I will let...I will speak again.

PRESIDENT: Why don't you go ahead...all right, you will speak again, all right. The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I am a strong supporter of this particular bill and I would just like to rise and make a couple of comments in support of it. One of our colleagues just asked why it is necessary to put this in the Constitution instead of just changing it by statute. This is a lengthy extensive provision. There really are