

all, Senator Chambers' fundamental philosophical outlook on this particular measure is absolutely incorrect. This measure will increase accountability of judges. This is not a boondoggle for the judges and for the lawyers. This is a measure that is going to bring the judges more under public scrutiny. It is going to increase their accountability and not, as Senator Chambers is implying, decrease their accountability. Now two examples, this constitutional amendment changes the composition on the Commission on Judicial Qualifications from consisting virtually entirely of judges to a composition of three judges, three lay people and three attorneys. So it takes a majority of the commission away from the judges themselves, places it with lay people in the state and places it with attorneys in the state. All right, that is important fundamental reform number one. Now important fundamental reform number two that makes this more responsive and more accountable and a vast improvement over the current constitutional provision is that it makes the entire range of disciplinary actions available against judges. It makes reprimands available. It makes suspensions available. It makes all kinds of measures available short of removal. So it means we are going to have the commission involved in many many more items of problems associated with the judges, of misconduct associated with the judges all the way up to criminal convictions associated with judges which are not currently litigable under the current section, under the current provisions and furthermore, when those suspensions are considered, when those reprimands are considered, when those disciplines are considered they are going to be considered by a commission that is composed one-third of judges, one-third of lay people and one-third of attorneys. So the fundamental thrust of Senator Chambers' remarks are simply incorrect. This is not a boondoggle for judges. This is going to make our entire system considerably more responsive. It is a basic fundamentally good reform measure and I would urge you to support it.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Hoagland a question or two.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland, will you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hoagland, with the makeup of the commission envisioned under this constitutional amendment, there would be six members of the legal profession and three lay people. Isn't that correct?