

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So despite what Senator Johnson says his intent is, which I presume is to prevent us from being charged with crimes, is that right, Senator Johnson? He nods, yes. I don't know that we ought to put anything into the statute which would give a basis for indicating that a senator is deemed by the Legislature to be able to have a conflict of interest when it comes to voting. If a lawyer can vote on prejudgment interest or any issue which might be a part of his or her practice, then I don't see why anybody else should be considered to have a conflict of interest. If those who are connected with agriculture can vote on any issue relative to agriculture which may impact on them whether negatively or positively, based on how the dice turn up when they are rolled, then there is no issue on which any other senator ought to be prevented from voting. So on this you can do as you please. I'm not really saying whether it ought to be voted up or voted down, but I'm simply not going to vote on this one at all.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Cal Carsten, please, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Johnson a question if I may.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Johnson, at the moment Senator Smith and I have a bill before the Legislature that deals with families that become involved with the care of one of those spouses that requires extended care and we have evidence of families, many, many families that spend their entire life savings on the care of that one individual, but the living spouse is absolutely destitute. We have a bill in that is looking at that and may at some point, legislation be introduced, that there will be a spend down level at some figure, not knowing what it is now, but when that family reaches that point and then the insurance, assuming that that is adopted, at that point that insurance kicks in immediately. There may very well be a member of this Legislature that that point that sits here, and I am assuming that that would apply to that individual at that