

highly dangerous and probably fatal. It is almost as bad as asking "Mumar" to come in here himself and supports this. As everyone knows my good friend, Senator Hoagland, and I have not always agreed on what should or shouldn't be in the accountability laws or whether even that commission should exist. My question I would ask to Senator Hoagland, who should be intimately familiar with this issue is, my question to Senator Hoagland is, Senator Hoagland, you've seen my proposal and what I'm attempting here to clear up this one section of the accountability law, do you, who have never agreed with me on one thing on accountability, feel that this is reasonable and appropriate, and would you support it?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: This particular provisions has been the subject of considerable debate and thought by a lot of us for a number of years. Of course what your amendment would do is simply strip out of the Accountability Act a provision that makes it uniafual to knowingly make a material misrepresentation of fact in a political campaign. Isn't that right, Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes, sir.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: It simply repeals that provision that was part of the original Accountability and Disclosure Act when it was passed in 1977. A number of us have given a lot of thought, as I indicated, to the First Amendment implications of that. Senator Johnson is not here today and I have had long conversations about it. You and I, Senator DeCamp, have talked about it too. I think my feeling is that in balance it is a difficult issue, but unbalanced it ought to be repealed. This section ought to be stricken because while none of us are in favor of material misrepresentations in campaigns, it touches so closely to First Amendment rights and to the need, I think, we have for open and vigorous debates in campaigns that it probably is unwise to have in a state law. There is also a significant enforceability problem because by the time the complaint is heard by the commission the votes are in and the winner has been determined and the issues are long forgotten. So I think, again it is difficult, but I think on balance, Senator DeCamp, I agree with you that this subsection of the Accountability Act ought to be repealed. I will be supporting this amendment, although I am considerably...I have considerable reluctance to do that in light of the