

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2001 LB 768

was passed in the 1999 session. And I'd like to thank the body for approving that constitutional amendment. That was passed in the general election this fall...this past fall. LR 14CA proposed to do away with the separate campaigns by the Lieutenant Governor candidate, and substitute therefor the right of the Governor candidate to select his or her running mate. LB 768 provides that the candidate for Governor of each political party receiving the highest number of votes in the primary election will select a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of the same political party, within 60 days after the statewide primary election. These two candidates would then run as a team on the general election ballot. This mainly is enabling legislation. I thank the people of this body for allowing me to put this constitutional amendment on the ballot. I thank the people of the state for voting for it. It wasn't exactly overwhelming, but I'll take a 52 to 48 percent vote any time. There are committee amendments. And I'm not going to get into those. I'm going to let Senator Schimek explain them. But I have followed them, and I think they are reasonable. They have to do with campaign spending limitations and a few other technical issues. So with that, that will conclude my opening on LB 768.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Schimek to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you. Mr. President, members of the body, I have to be up-front and tell you that this was not a bill that I supported in the first place. I didn't vote for it on the November ballot. But it's a done deal. And what we're...all we're trying to do here today is implement. So there aren't too many policy decisions that we're actually making today. The committee amendments get to the candidate filing form, and requires, instead of a filing form...because this is not going to be a separate candidate committee, it's going to be combined with the gubernatorial committee. All the amendment does is require the candidate for Governor to file an affidavit saying who the Lieutenant Governor choice is, and then having that Lieutenant Governor candidate file a written notice of consent with the Secretary of State. In addition to that, it addresses petition candidates and just says that when a