

you will listen carefully because the ramifications of this amendment I think are really quite extraordinary as Senator DeCamp knows, as I can tell from the expression on his face. First of all the accountability and disclosure act was very carefully designed to require disclosure in campaigns for political candidates at state and local level, not all local candidates but many of them, and to require disclosure and the funding of ballot measures, measures that are actually on the ballot for the voters to vote on at the state level and many of the local levels. Now another section of the accountability act requires disclosure of lobbying activities, when people lobby before the legislature, and in some instances when they lobby before executive branches of state government. Now that is the extent of the accountability act in terms of what is relevant to Senator Schmit's amendment. All right now disclosure in campaigns involving candidates or ballot measures, that is ballot choices that have to be made by citizens when they go to the ballot box, or in the case of lobbying to require the people who are trying to influence a public business down here in the rotunda or in some executive branch agency to disclose their financing, let us know how much they are spending and what issues they are spending it to influence. Now, Senator Schmit's amendment goes far, far beyond that. Senator Beutler has distributed a copy of the Attorney General's opinion and if you look on page one of that Attorney General's opinion or if you look on page 1632 of the Journal where Senator Schmit's amendment is printed, the amendment that he had last time which I understand is the same or identical or very similar to the one that he has now, you will see that Senator Schmit defines as a lobbyist anyone who spends more than a thousand dollars to influence any political issue in the State of Nebraska. Now think about that for a moment. Somebody who spends more than a thousand dollars to influence any political issue in the State of Nebraska. Now, what does that mean about the oil company image advertisements that we see on the national networks all of the time? When Exxon or Mobil run an advertisement on national TV to improve their image, we see those things all of the time. All right, as I read Senator Schmit's amendment, all of the oil companies would have to come in and register as lobbyists. How about when the federal agencies run those ads, those public service advertisements on smoking or on children having seat belts in automobiles or they are going to get killed, or all of the other kind of public service ads that various federal and state agencies run that influence political decisions, like smoking. Surely whether or not smoking causes cancer is one of the most intensely political issues in the country. All of those would fall under this qualification. All of those would fall under Senator Schmit's amendment. How about the ads that various