

wish to speak to the amendment? Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Yes, Madam Speaker. Senator Lindsay, would you respond to me? I have a problem. If I read Section 4 in the bill, and it has somewhat to do the same thing as Senator Will's amendment because of the effective date. Election period shall mean the period beginning May 1 of the year following the beginning of the previous term of the office sought and ending on April 30 following the election of the office sought. Okay, we senators are elected for a four year period of time. And I know the first year I served I don't think I had any money in my campaign account, and I realized that I was putting out 1,000, 12, 1,500 dollars a year in expected donations or newspaper subscriptions, or whatever it may be. Now, it's probably even more than that...closer to the \$2,000 figure a year, of which we can, for some of those costs, use our campaign account, or if we go to a conference. Would this include the previous four years, or the...the term previous to what you're serving. I mean, that's really, kind of a real...a real blow to the incumbents, because that would bring it down to whatever you want, 42, 45,000 payment.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Right, right. What...the...when it was drawn, what we were trying to avoid is the incumbent, and you can imagine the flak we'd take, with the incumbent building up 50,000 each of those years, and then having a 200,000, 500...or 50,000 advantage. So it's drawn so that to include the entire period that the incumbent cannot stockpile, or...or build that war chest. I...I understand the...the issue that you bring up is legitimate on ongoing expenses. However, when we consider that the expenses, while it's certainly nothing that we can probably afford out of our own pockets, some of those expenses that we incur, the incumbent does have other advantages that cannot be matched by the challenger. So I think some of those would offset a little bit on the...on the amount. But it's something again, I'd be happy to look at amendments to try to do that, but I frankly couldn't come up with something to balance that out.

SENATOR NELSON: Well, I appreciate...I hadn't even thought about stockpiling from, you know, each year, either. I didn't even think of that little loophole, but I really think that this should be addressed, because this brings the incumbent down. I know maybe a senator will send his research staff to a meeting in Washington, D.C. And I think maybe Senator Haberman was