

Both the people who have been involved in the Orr campaign and Governor Nelson and his staff, I introduced this bill along with Senator Conway to try to rectify that problem. It seems to me that in the course of business as an elected official there are many times that particularly for a Governor who has long busy schedules that there may be times when you need to make a phone call that is not in the nature of the business of the state and that if you have your own separate phone line which your campaign will actually spend the funds for and that you keep a separate accounting of what is campaign and what is business, that this is a very clean way to do it. Senator Schmit, I know, also had some of the same problems with a business phone line. What this bill says is that a campaign may make expenditures or transfer funds for the payment of a phone line or office supplies and so forth. We had an interim study this summer on this very topic and so actually we've had two public hearings on this bill. At the next stage of debate I intend to offer an amendment which will further tighten the language of this bill. It came out during the discussions and during the hearings that maybe the bill as written is a little bit too liberal when it talks about office supplies, staff and furnishings or devices that maybe that was going a little bit too far. So on Select I intend to offer an amendment which will tighten that up and really just address telephone and fax machines and in order to move this along I would ask that you do move it along today and that we discuss that amendment then on Select File. With that, Mr. President, I would suggest that we move this to Select File.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Beutler, perhaps you've answered my question. I guess my first question is, this doesn't expand the uses for which campaign funds can be used, right? It doesn't expand any uses.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, it does in that it would allow you to use it, use these funds for expenditures for office equipment essentially.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And right now we cannot use...well it's...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You could in your campaign office.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Does this bill...if you had the same equipment in the campaign office and used it solely for campaign purposes,