

right? But if you put this equipment in your legislative office, you cannot use it for legislative purposes, right?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is what the Accountability Commission ruled, yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And with this bill you still could not do that. Is that correct?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: With this bill you would be able to.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You would be able to use the office equipment for legislative purposes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Not for legislative purposes, no. Senator Beutler, maybe I didn't explain the intent here well enough. What this would allow an officeholder to do, an officeholder who is running for reelection for instance, is to install that phone in their office so that there is never a question between the business of the state and what is campaign business, so that your campaign funds would actually pay for any calls that are not technically state business. What we're trying to do here is allow a system where an officeholder can be very up front and not ever get in the situation where they might be using state lines, and that is of course a difficulty sometimes because you don't always know when you're returning a phone call to somebody, you might not know what business is on their mind. But this is...attempts to make it a cleaner kind of situation.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, and right now under the language a campaign staff person could be operating out of your legislative office. Now that is what you're intending to take out on Select File?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: No, I think the Accountability Commission would rule against that right now.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, but with your...with the current language in the green copy you could do that.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct, Senator Beutler, and that is what I think maybe may have been going too far and that's why I said I'd like to tighten that language on Select File and really have it refer to phone lines and fax machines.