

when they filed that. The ones that spent the most, their opponents would receive that much in public funds to make up for the difference. The payment of the...it also provides that the payment to qualified candidates would be made two weeks after that filing deadline of 60 days before the election which would still allow them to use those funds in the election. And it also clarifies the fact that if you do receive public funds, then you could exceed the spending limitation at that point because the public funds are kept in a separate account and your...and your private funds...or your public funds are kept in a separate account from the funds that you gather from other sources. So if you...if your opponent decides to exceed the limitation and you qualify for a certain amount of public funds then those public funds go to you but then you can spend over the spending limitation and not be penalized for that, because you have not spent it with private dollars, you have spent it with public funds. I have a question...a note here from Senator Cudaback. He wanted me to define public funds. Those would be the funds that you would receive because your opponent exceeded the spending limitations. Those would be the public funds.

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SPEAKER BAACK: Those are the public dollars that you would receive. The other dollars that you receive would be private funds that you gathered from other sources, and those would be the public funds that you would receive. With that, I would...I would be happy to answer any questions about this specific amendment and would hope that the body would adopt this amendment. Then I have another amendment following and then there are a number of other amendments of...I think, Senator Ashford and Senator Wesely have some other amendments they would like to discuss on the bill. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions on this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, the call for the spending limitation on campaign spending is always viewed as a very noble gesture and not very many legislators, of course, want to stand up and talk about it or against it because it always appears to be the side of righteousness and justice to limit campaign expenditures. You have to bear in mind that those of us who are incumbents have a tremendous advantage when it comes to receiving publicity and utilizing the media to gain