

But I think that the critical problem is not that. The critical problem is each individual political action committee and corporation and union in effect spending exorbitant amounts of money on one particular candidate so that that candidate, if elected, in effect becomes almost the employee of that particular group. That, in effect, is to me is the most egregious problem that we have. And it also centers on, and I think when we're talking about term limitations and the concerns that the people and the general public have about how our system works and they see how the lobbyists work and how the special interests work, most of the concern I hear is the spending is too high but these special interest have too much impact on legislation and we, the general public, are actually precluded from the system because there is this buffer between the public and the legislative body and that is the lobby. It doesn't bother me so much that a lobbyist comes to us and says, to each of us and says I've got a... I represent so and so interest and I've got a bill I want to talk about or I've got an opinion on a bill that I want you to consider and makes a case for and against. The problem is that that really isn't where the power of the lobby is. The power of the lobby is the ability to go to an individual candidate and say vote for this bill because if you do, I will get you campaign contributions. That's where the power is. And they go to their individual groups and they go to their individual... whomever they represent and say we've got to support this person because this person will vote for our interest and we need to raise as much money as possible, 15,000, 20,000, 50,000 whatever it takes to get this person elected because if this person does get elected or reelected this person is going to vote for us when he or she is in the Legislature. It happens, we all know it happens and that is the problem that I, personally, believe is the problem that reflects most detrimentally on our body here on the legislative process. The, again, I think that if we were to remove from the lobby and from the special interest groups that revolve around this body, that power where they could go out, in effect, and raise as much money as they want for a particular candidate or work in an election against a candidate who doesn't vote their interest and not only work against them, that's fine, the teachers are always a great example. It's a group that I've enjoyed support from and I've normally voted with them, but I'll tell you, I'd much rather have the teachers out there working in the precincts and knocking on doors than getting 10 or 15 or \$20,000 from that group. It seems to me that we need to encourage the individual participation of people who are teachers or who are members of