

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay, that's in Section 2 and then as, and Senator Schimek is shaking her head as to whether...that's a person. Now are these individuals, are these by definition, are these committees persons?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Yes, and that's...I was going to...when I...my light went back on...

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. So they are persons under the law and then as an aggregate I can accept say three \$5,000 contributions from political action committees and one 2,500 and then I'm done?

SENATOR ASHFORD: That's correct and the rest would be individual contribution.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. I appreciate that understanding of the amendment. I'm still not supportive of it but I appreciate understanding better what it does do. Senator Chambers might be right on this. I think the odds are sooner or later this session he will be, so he might be right on this and no matter what you do in the area of campaign finance reform there will be ways to get around it. But the Ashford amendment is one that I think just generally lies out for getting around it if your attempt is to...if you think you're going to limit any big spending political action committees to a single \$5,000 contribution. Take NRA for instance, if there were a senator in here, just hypothetically a senator in here that NRA might like to see reelected to the Legislature and they would like to give lots of money to that candidate but this limits them to \$5,000, it would be very simple to have an Omaha political action committee chapter of NRA, Lincoln political action chapter of NRA, et cetera, et cetera, so it just seems like what will happen here will be breaking up into smaller political action committees in order to violate this requirement and I just really don't think it will work, so I'm not going to support it.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Call the question.

SENATOR WARNER: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. Those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed nay. Motion is to cease debate.