

in place, there is a way to get around it. New ideas, very creative ideas are found to funnel money into campaigns. You can't do that as well with an overall cap on expenditures. When you say you are going to spend no more than \$50,000, and if you do, you have these penalties, I think it is pretty hard to get by that, that that is something that we can probably set as a goal and accomplish. But the idea of some of the limitations here that are proposed by Senator Ashford, it seems to me that there will be creative activity and some way will be found around them unless we think them through very, very carefully, and I am not sure that at this point we have thought of all the angles on this. So despite my sympathy for the amendment and desire to see something like it eventually happen, my thinking is that we need to be very careful in structuring it, and I don't think we are ready at this point to do that, so I would oppose the amendment at this stage. And the other thing is that the major change being proposed in this bill, to put an overall cap, perhaps it would be best to move forward on that to see how it would work, and then come back in at a later date and try to put more specific restrictions in place. That is another thought that I have as well. But, again, I am open to discussing with Senator Ashford the concepts of his amendment, and I think others are as well, and perhaps we can take a little time to look at this more carefully. There may be some way to accomplish his goals, I am just not sure that this amendment at this point would do that.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Madam President, members of the body, I, too, want to thank Senator Ashford for offering this amendment again today, and so that we can have the opportunity to further discuss this issue. I was here Thursday, Senator Ashford, although I don't know where I was mentally because for some reason or other I objected to this and I am really glad to have the opportunity to look at it again. I think it is important that we do, and that we bring it up at this particular time, rather than to pass the bill because I am one of those that do believe that once Senator Baack's bill here is passed, we will have difficulty getting back to it. And the other thing, I share some of Senator Chambers' concerns that it will not be a perfect bill. And the only thing I can say, Senator Chambers, is is that we basically do what we can do, and that is about as far as we can go. So with that statement, I would give my