

easily many candidates doing one of two things. If there's no money available, I see no reason for candidates to say I'm not going to go ahead and agree to spend...to the spending limitations. I'm going to go ahead and let my opponent have whatever they get on what...we go above that campaign expenditures or that campaign limit. And, of course, if there is nothing appropriated, the opponent gets nothing. I mean I could see that happening very easily. And to me that makes us look kind of silly saying that we really think that we want to make it fair so the opposition, or the opponent is going to have funds that can compete if we spend more than that. But yet we don't have any...we don't have the audacity, really, to come forward and put true public monies into the bill. If we're going to do it, you got to put monies into the bill. I know...I'm sure it would be Senator Baack's desire to come back next year and put public funds into that. But we all know what the public fund treasury is going to look at. I doubt very seriously that we'll actually fund it to the level that it would need. That's one scenario I see. Another scenario I see is a candidate not agreeing to the spending limitations, per se, but at the last minute going ahead and say, I'm going to spend above my 50,000 limit, or whatever the case may be. And once they spend over that amount it kicks in. But that candidate is clever, that candidate says I'm going to put my last minute blitz the last two weeks of the election. And so I go over the limit. I spend my 15, 10, 20 thousand dollars above the limit, put my radio, television in there, and true, my opponent is probably going to receive public funding, if we fund it, after the election, because they won't have...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...time to receive those funds in time to have any impact on the election.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And so I look at that and I see the scenarios, and I'm not sure that under the scenarios I see that what we're trying to accomplish is doable. I think we move a long way of making it doable if we're willing to put the public funds there. If we're not willing to put the public funds there to finance it, and we don't think it's going to be ready next year, I think we're...we're...we're stretching it a little bit when we say we're trying to be fair, we're trying to make it