

limitations, they have to file this with their filing for the office for the filing to be proper. If there's a write-in or petition candidate, they must file a declaration of intent with the commission, within five days of becoming a candidate. It...in one other section it adds staff salaries to the definition of expenditures, in case a person has staff people that they are paying to work on their campaign. It changes some of the offenses. It changes a Class IV misdemeanor, if a candidate accepts public funds, but exceeds the spending limitation by 5 percent, it changes that to a Class II misdemeanor. That is to make it consistent with the way the accountability and disclosure assesses penalties right now with some of the other provisions that they enforce. It also makes it a Class IV felony if they file a false affidavit, which makes it...which is also just to make it consistent with the accountability and disclosure regulations now regarding the filing of any kind of false statement. And it also says that any other violation of this act, if there is not a specified penalty, will be a Class IV misdemeanor. Let's see. It also provides that the county...that the commission...that the Accountability and Disclosure Commission would act concurrently with the county attorney in prosecuting any of the criminal violations of this act. They would use the local county attorney. That is...that is all that is in this amendment. I do have another amendment that follows this that relates to the individual contributions and also the...the aggregate limits that are set in the other bill, but that will be in the next amendment. With that, I would agree to...would be glad to answer any questions about this amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Baack. Senator Ashford on the Baack amendment.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I rise to support the amendment that, as Senator Baack suggested, this amendment was the result of an agreement that was reached between us concerning the Campaign Finance Reform Act. It is a measure which I think is significant, a very important piece of legislation. Obviously, I would have rather seen specific contribution limits. But the amendment that Senator Baack and I have agreed to, which does establish aggregate limits, certainly is a long ways from where we originally were on the...where we only had limits on expenditures, that we're now dealing with contribution limits in this bill in a significant way, albeit not where I hoped we could go. But I appreciate Senator Baack