

those entities in the form of changes in the statute or dealing with them on whatever type of basis might be necessary. It is not so much the argument for me that I want to ensure that these folks have an opportunity to continue to contribute, because I am, as you all know, not a big fund raiser. I don't spend a lot of money, and I, frankly, don't care...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...whether someone, you know, makes a contribution or not to any campaign I am involved in. The fact of the matter is that when you start down the road of saying these individuals have the ability to influence elections and these don't, you are, in essence, saying some have, I guess, a better advantage, more opportunity, if you will, to, I guess, influence those of us in the positions that would be unable to accept those contributions, and I think that, on its face, says that there may likely be a problem. And I understand the issue of perception over fact. It clearly raises its head in our business on a daily basis. But I think that the better approach in this case would probably be to bar all those individuals who are bidding on state contracts from making contributions in this area, and that way...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...everyone is put on a level playing field. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, although I have some mixed feelings on the bill, I support it. I don't, I guess I don't buy the all or nothing theory in the sense that I think everybody understands that when you are working in a new area and trying out some new mechanisms, you don't try it out all at once. It rarely happens in a democratic society that you try it out all at once. What you do is pick out a piece and try it out on a piece, and I think that is what Senator Warner is doing, and some may raise the question as to whether lotteries are the first situation where you should try out this kind of regulation, but I think if you look at the United States historically, certainly gambling interests have been that area in which we have had the greatest problems. Ironically, here in Nebraska, as far as my experience in the