

SENATOR LINDSAY: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...to the extent that it's taxed is also paying it twice, if you want to look at it that way.

SENATOR HALL: But the difference is...

SENATOR BEUTLER: But...

SENATOR HALL: ...but the difference is I'm...I'm the individual, I'm the one who is saying I will put my money up to run for office. We want individuals in the truest form of democracy. I guess, we don't want to have to spend anybody's money but our own, legitimately, I guess, logistically if we could...if we could do it and put a cap on it, we would like to, frankly, have them be free, if they could be, if we could run it that way because everybody is on an even playing field. But if I decide to loan money to my own campaign that I've paid income tax on at the time I earned it, now under this I again, if I forgive that loan, am subject to another income tax. I mean, if somebody gives me money, I would think that...

SPEAKER WITHEM SPEAKING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time, Senator Hall. Senator Hall, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President. I would think, Senator Beutler, at a minimum, was there any discussion of exempting individuals who were the candidates themselves?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I'm sorry, I didn't hear your question.

SENATOR HALL: I apologize. If...I'll repeat it. If there were...was there any discussion of exempting, for purposes of the loans, a candidate themselves, a candidate for purposes of the income tax? If I were to forgive the loan to the committee, was there any exemption discussed for purposes of the income tax?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I don't recall anybody else in the last couple years, Senator, asking for that kind of consideration. I don't think it was discussed, to my knowledge.