

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, the projected revenues...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Sorry, Senator Hall. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, and members, I wanted to know that Senator Hall, he is not standing alone, that I am opposed to, not so much Senator Maurstad's bill or amendment or the Bernard-Stevens amendment, I actually am opposed to the whole bill and I wanted you to know you're not fighting a lone fight, Senator Hall, and I'm going to guess that there might be more opposition. I, too, dislike the idea of I really don't like public finance campaign funding so that's a basic premise. And I dislike this, I understand Senator Beutler is looking for a way to finance that, I understand that, this is one alternative or one way, an option to do that, but the basic issue is not of my liking and I'm going to oppose the bill. And that's simply wanted to know you weren't standing alone on this one. Thanks.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, I'm not sure on which item to start in terms of responding, but let me say that I think there are good answers to everything that's been raised so far. With respect to campaign contributions, if you don't want your contribution taxed, you don't have to have it taxed. That's a provision in the bill. That was a provision in response to the Republican Party. Contributions, in-kind contributions under the definitions of the law do not include such things as personal services provided without compensation occurred of less than \$250 in a calendar year by an individual, etcetera, etcetera. They've excluded most of the kinds of...small kinds of in-kind contributions. Beyond that, as you know, we already take into account in-kind contributions in our campaign expenditure reports. Some of you use polls. I'm sure many of you have used polls and, as you know, when somebody does a poll for you, they report to you the value of that in-kind contribution and in turn it has to be reported on your reports. So none of this is anything that we haven't been doing. The fiscal note on this is about \$12,000. That's a considerable amount compared to the income in the first year. It's not so much compared to the income in the second year. When you get to the big election years when the largest amounts of money are concerned, then the amount for collection