

SPEAKER WITHEM: Again, Senator Bernard-Stevens, just a minute or two to indicate to the body what your amendment does.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just to take ten seconds, this amendment, in essence, would gut...it would say we are not going to do the campaign finance law. It would repeal that law because we weren't going to fund it.

SPEAKER WITHEM: That was five seconds. Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Discussion on the Bernard-Stevens amendment, Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I don't know if this is directly, it is related to the bill, and I guess it is partly to the...could be related to the amendment, but I have a question for Senator Beutler.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR ROBINSON: If this bill passed, and we'll say in the next gubernatorial election, in the primary, whether it was a Democrat or Republican, let's say someone...we had a candidate that would spend \$3 million and there were four other candidates that could only raise \$50,000. Now there would be a large amount of money that would be owed those...that would be due those three candidates that only raised the 50,000. I guess my question is, if the money is not there, is the state liable? Do they have to come up with that money through an appropriation, or just what happens on something like that?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: First of all, Senator, the example you gave wouldn't pertain, there wouldn't be money payable to those candidates in that particular situation. But, in any event, I think the question is an interesting one. I have not researched that question. So I guess I don't know.

SENATOR ROBINSON: So we really don't know if the state is going to be liable for a large amount of money, it could be an extremely large amount of money, right? Depending on how...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator, how...my theory of how this all will work is that there will be no money, not much money involved at all, if any. One can theorize about a huge amount