

have to do is look back, term limits are reaction to people's frustration. They are evidence of people's frustration that they don't know how to get the rascals out. They have a feeling that we're rascals, once we are in here, and they feel that there is not a level playing field if there is a challenger to an incumbent, and so without having any good quick solutions to that perception, they passed term limits. I don't support term limits. I don't like the idea of term limits, but that's only the beginning of a course of action the public is going to take if we don't have an ear to listen to their concerns. Now Senator Beutler's proposal is a very modest proposal. It is an attempt to deter people from excessive spending in campaigns, and that is all it is. It is not about catching people who are dishonest or keeping crooks from running or anything like that. It is simply to provide an incentive for spending a reasonable amount of money to try to get elected. Some might say that it will take some advantage away from the incumbent. I'd suggest to you that it should be easier for an incumbent to get reelected with a modest amount of money or really more than a modest amount of money than it is for a challenger. You are going to find challengers who are going to have the wherewithal to try to buy their way into office, and I don't know if we've all thought about that enough. But this is an attempt in a small way, a very small way, to level the playing field and to stem the tide of this term limits thing. And I most definitely agree with Senator Hall, we have not really had, I don't think, a full opportunity to express our opinion on Senator Beutler's proposal here, and Senator Bernard-Stevens wants to repeal the whole act. Are people on the floor, are we listening today? I mean we are not just saying to Senator Beutler we don't really think that is a good idea, we think there is a better way to do it, we are saying let's get rid of the whole...the whole act. Let's just take it out of there. Let's send a message to the people of Nebraska that we, in the Legislature of the State of Nebraska, we don't think we need anything in the laws about this. We not only don't want to fund it, we just flat-out don't need it, and if you are concerned about petition drives out there like I am, and about having some tax system imposed upon us that will make it very difficult for us to take care of the people and educate our kids, then fuel the fire with something like this and see how long it takes for that fire to burn in the prairies of Nebraska. I can't really believe that we are thinking of all of the ramifications if we adopt this amendment, and I think that the amendment and the perception it sends is far more dangerous than Senator Bernard-Stevens apparently