

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and somewhat hypothetical, especially now that Senator Wehrbein is against the 50,000 that is in the preliminary budget. If you can't count on that, then we have less than what is on these sheets.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But then that's just a...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that, and that's why...one of the things that was bothering me, how are we going to make that up, but I know that you don't have all those answers either, and as I said earlier, I have thought about this a great deal, and in my own mind thought of some ways that maybe we could do it that it would be different, but none of them have really satisfied...

SENATOR LINDSAY: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...my thinking that would actually come into reality. I mean, I don't think that the thoughts that I had are realistic, and so I guess I ended up by saying, you know, if you can't build a better mousetrap, why people are not going to come knocking at your door. And if this is the best mousetrap that we can find, maybe we are going to have to go with it, I don't know. I'd just like to hear some more of the debate and see if I can justify in my own mind, but to finish the few seconds I have, I'd like to say I certainly do oppose the Bernard-Stevens amendment doing away completely with the idea of some type of campaign reform because I think that's what the people expect and I think that is what we should follow. Thank you.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, and friends all. I rise, first of all, to thank Senator Beutler for his persistence in doing something that I think the public is certainly calling for, and that is the need to have some campaign finance reform. It is very clear in my mind on the day that I was elected by the good electors in my district, when one of the voters came out of the polls, and I was standing there, and she gave me a thumbs up and said, way to not spend \$25,000. And what she was referring to was that, in my candidacy, I spent about \$4,500 and my opponent spent \$25,000. And many of the people in my district and in other areas figure that somebody