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LB 548

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Beutler, that support can only be shown in terms of how many dollars they are willing to contribute to a person's campaign?

SENATOR BEUTLER: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you're from an impoverished district and people in that district don't...take myself for example, I don't raise money. I don't even know if I could raise money, but there are a lot of interests outside my district which would like to see me defeated. So let's say they pour in tons of money into this district and say I would change my point of view to the point where I say, okay, they want to fight, I'm going to make a fight. Now, the money based on what this law says does not have to be contributed by the people in the district in which the person is running, just from anybody in the State of Nebraska. First of all, is that true? The candidate needs to raise the money from anybody or any individuals within the State of Nebraska, not just those within his or her district. Is that correct?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, it's just limited to residents of the state.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that only serious candidates are the ones who raise substantial amounts of money when seeking a political office?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I think only serious candidates raise...that any serious candidate would raise the amount of money stated in this limitation act and by serious, in that sense I mean serious with respect to winning. There are other candidates out there, many of them as you well know, that are very serious with regard to one or three or four issues maybe, but are there principally to make a point about something, not to win the race.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, I won't ask more questions right now because there wouldn't be the chance to answer them, but here's the point I'm trying to make. This bill by the way it is structured will make public funding available to certain people if they meet certain conditions. The purported purpose over all of the bill is to limit the amount that people spend in