

adopted the underlying law to provide public financing. Last week this body had an opportunity to repeal that law and did not. The body had an opportunity to impose a tax, and I frankly think that was mischaracterized, to impose a tax or a surcharge for the funding for one cycle of the underlying law and didn't do that. This morning the body had an opportunity to appropriate General Funds in order to determine how the underlying law would work for one cycle and we didn't do that. Now Senator Beutler, who has worked diligently, honorably in pursuit of something which this body has adopted, stands before us with technical amendments, seeking to continue to improve a bill and a law that the rest of us don't seem to be coming to grips with. I think it's time that we move this bill to Select File, rejoin the issues again there and see where we are. I've shared my concerns with Senator Beutler about whether the limits work, whether 50,000 or \$100,000 will fund it, but what I'm not going to do is let, and maybe it's my naivete, but I would hope we don't do that, what I'm not going to do is participate any longer in the body not being able to make up its mind about anything and letting Senator Beutler just, so to speak, twist in the wind. Thank you.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Maurstad.

**SENATOR MAURSTAD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Beutler, could you respond to a couple of very brief questions, please?

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** I hope so.

**SENATOR MAURSTAD:** On page 2, line 22 you talk about the 60 percent factor between the general and the primary. Is that a number that is, to use a usual term, in concrete?

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** Absolutely not, Senator. I meant to indicate in my remarks that that is a number based on advice from Accountability as to what has happened, what has occurred historically. It may be a little...I can see where different people would have different opinions as to how that might be broke down and certainly subject to further discussion.

**SENATOR MAURSTAD:** I thought I picked that up in your comments and I just wanted to make sure. So if somebody came to you with some reasonable thoughts on why that number should be something else, then you would consider that.