

tremendous impact on this society in the last 20 or 30 years and I find it, what's the right word I want, Senator Chambers, ironic that you should be arguing this position and calling it windmills when it's not windmills and it's not smoke and it's not mirrors. It is actually, probably the one effective thing that can be done with respect to campaign spending reform, that is to limit the overall expenditures. You know you're never going to get to the point where you can keep this group or that group from giving so much amount of money because they will give it individually and they'll divide up their family 1,600 different ways and you can chase a whole lot of things around for a long time and make a multiplicity a complex of laws that would be abhorrent to us all when really only one simple thing needs to be done and it's a shame that the Supreme Court has made it so difficult to begin with, but the one simple thing that needs to be done is to simply limit campaign expenditures, and to continue to relate to the public, disclose to the public where funds come from. And by means of those two things you will not make the playing field so expensive that the average person cannot participate, but at the same time, and at the same time you will know within that campaign expenditure which groups are supporting which person. You'll still have that kind of disclosure and that's the way we can take care of things I think in a very reasonable sort of way. Nothing that Senator Chambers has talked about goes to the amendment itself today. I know he's concerned about the 25 percent limitation. In a legislative race that amounts to \$6,000, being able to raise \$6,000 and I just don't think that's an unreasonable amount of money, but if the Legislature wants to revisit that particular provision we can certainly do so. One more item I wanted to mention, as you all know, the income tax returns this time around which will be known to us before too much longer do have the voluntary checkoff provision in them. We don't know how much money will be raised by that mechanism. Perhaps before too much time is passed we will know that information or have some idea of what is happening there and that might help us on the funding side of this as we go down the road here. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Witek, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I think we've gone over some of these ideas in the Government Committee for the three years that I've been here including this amendment that was a bill that came through or it's very similar to, I'm not sure if it's the exact same language, that came through the