

impression that perhaps there are strange bedfellows that oppose this opposition, but certainly most conservatives seem to line up against campaign finance, per se, and if you are talking about your traditional campaign finance, I probably would be right there with them. But I think that the concept in this legislation that was drafted and passed by the body, Senator Beutler sponsored, is unique. There is a book that you can get here from the Research Office that gives you a synopsis of all the campaign finance efforts and laws throughout the 50 states. This is a unique concept unlike any other state. This concept is not your traditional take the General Fund tax dollars, feed it into campaigns when they get to a certain point, it is not that concept at all. The main thrust of this bill, and I think it is repetitive and redundant, but Senator Beutler has stressed it, but I want to say it again, the reason I support it is this is an incentive bill. It is an incentive not to be lavish in the spending on the campaigns. Campaign expenditures, in some cases, have become a travesty. They have become a black mark. They are another reason why people don't trust their politicians. They would say why, why would you spend \$110,000 to try to get a job in the Legislature for \$12,000 unless there is something, something else you receive that's of great value. There must be something else going on down there, and that's the kind of talk and so forth that that generates. The legislative concept here is a sound one. The Legislature thought enough of it to put it on the books. You've searched, we've searched for ways to fund it, and that's still a challenge, but I am confident we will solve that problem eventually. I have a little hard time understanding the big resistance to the...to the concept we had before us with this bill this year. Taxing political contributions, it's already been donated for a political purpose, I don't find it to be that objectionable for a small, small percentage of that to be funneled into a fund to provide this incentive for people to only spend a reasonable amount of money. I just am not connecting with those people that have big problems with this. I really am not, and if you go out and say, are you in favor of public supported campaign financing? And you ask that question without explaining the concept of this bill, of course, people are going to say no because they don't understand it. They don't understand how this bill works. If you understand how this bill works, and you explain that to people, I have found, the ones that I have talked with, to be generally supportive, and some very supportive, and some of these people I would classify that I've talked to about it as being very conservative folks when it