

funding idea, you know, everybody is standing up and talking about how hated it is, I am kind of giving the other side of the argument here to Senator Beutler's argument, but how many of your constituents have you heard complain about the public funding that goes on to help the presidential campaigns. I don't think that the public, by and large, probably is much aware of it, but, more than that, I don't think they have a real problem with it, and once it is in place, I don't think you'd hear that many complaints about it, particularly if it works as well as Senator Beutler and others think it is going to work. You are not going to have much expenditure of money, and I don't think you are going to hear that many complaints. But the other point I would like to make, and I will try not to tarry too long, but I think Senator Chambers is absolutely right when he says it would be a sham, if we don't fund this properly. It would leave a worse taste, I think, in the public's mouth, than if we didn't enact the bill at all. At, you know, at the worse, it might even be unethical of us to do that. Just test your memory a tiny bit and go back a few years to the Commonwealth issue when the state set in statute a policy to protect depositors and they didn't fund it. Now this is not of the same nature, of the same magnitude, but I think that we would be doing everyone, including the candidates and the public, at large, a disservice if we don't adequately fund this bill, and I would just plead with you to give Senator Beutler a little more time. He is working on, he is working with groups, he is working on members of the Legislature, and I would encourage you to vote against this motion.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Mr. Speaker, I'd call the question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate now cease? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Debate is ceased. Senator Witek to close.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the vote that we are taking right now is just a motion to reconsider the Bernard-Stevens amendment. We will not be considering the Bernard-Stevens amendment this morning. It will be considered