

of accolades because it is the incumbents who normally have the advantage in fund raising, as you all know. And for the incumbents to have agreed to abide by the \$50,000 limitation actually says to the state of Nebraska that no public funds are going to be spent because of incumbents, because of decisions made by incumbents. We will be left with a situation where the only possibility of public funds being spent is if challengers should not agree to abide. The likelihood of their not agreeing to abide, I think, in the context of the given set of races is, is small. The inclination of challengers generally not to abide I think would be minor. So I'm hopeful the way things are developing, that it may well be that all will abide, or, if not all, that there will be only one or two races that involve the potential for the expenditure of public funds. We should know, as January passes into February and the first of March comes around, what the situation is for sure. If it's just one or two races, then the current amount of funding in the Campaign Finance Reform Act Fund will be sufficient, given any reasonable estimate that's likely to be made over the...over the expenditure limitation, will be plenty of money to cover a couple of races. If it turns out that there are three or four potential problem areas, then you will see me making a motion as the appropriation bill comes around to add whatever amount of money is sufficient to cover the potential that lies out there. I can't imagine that it would be more than \$50,000 at the most. But as all the incumbent senators already, with the exception of four, have declared, being sure that there's enough public money, enough money in the Campaign Finance Reform Act is actually for the protection of the incumbent senators, because they have agreed to abide and those who agreed to abide should be protected. But that's an argument for another day, a discussion that's unnecessary today. I think we need to see how events develop. I'm real anxious to hear the reactions of those of you who are running this year to the act as it goes along and as it plays out. As hard as I fought for this thing, it's probably hard for me to be objective about it all, but I'm really trying to tell myself, let's see what happens this time and let's be as objective as we can and make decisions and go from there. So to that end I suppose it makes no good sense to argue about it more at this particular point in time. I'd rather keep a positive cast on things as I think the developments are very positive, encourage you to do your best to abide by the act and to work with the act and to let me know where the act has problems. And then, perhaps, at the