

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 2, 2000 LB 438

the body. This bill is about independent committees and it was brought to you because there is some concern about the burgeoning of independent committees and the fact that particularly in the instance of legislative races where we have a Campaign Finance Limitation Act that applies to us and many of us have actually a...well, most of us, all of us I believe, in the last couple of election cycles have agreed to abide by the campaign finance limitations that the bill imposes. It becomes worrisome when then independent committees can come in and actually spend money either for or against a particular candidate and there is...there is a limit to what we can do constitutionally about that, as I understand the matter, but what would be helpful to the process I believe is a timely...a timely filing of expenditures by the independent committees so that the public knows in a timely manner what is being spent by independent committees. And this bill simply asks that the reporting requirement be made 48 hours and electronic filings are permissible under this bill. The committee amendment changes that slightly, but that's...that's a simple explanation of the bill and I...I don't know if it requires anything more detailed than that, but I'll be happy to respond to questions after we've explained the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. You are recognized to open on the committee amendments. (AM0557, Legislative Journal page 874, First Session, 1999.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. The committee amendment is fairly simple, too. It just changes the 48 hours to 2 business days, so that we don't get into problems regarding weekends. The reference to the committee is changed so that it makes clear that we're talking only about independent committees here. We are not talking about candidate committees or ballot question committees or political party committees. With that, that concludes my remarks.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. We are discussing the advancement of LB 438 and not LB 654 as I said earlier. Senator Schimek, there are no lights on. Would you like to close on the committee amendments?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Again, the