

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 1021

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...the \$100 threshold doesn't worry me as much as the \$50, because a \$50 is kind of a more common level of gift giving.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's the difficulty with this whole section, which is why we put the categories in, so you...it's your...you know, based on your best estimate of where that gift would fall. Technically, before now, all you had to do was just report that it was over 50...or, over \$100. So you still had to have some idea of the value of the gift.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Right. And I understand that. I think \$100 is easier to eyeball and deal with than a \$50, where there might be more gray areas for people trying to decide. So my obligation...for example, if I were a younger single member of the Legislature and I was getting married, or a younger older member who was getting married, and I register for gifts and I get gifts that aren't on the gift registry, so I don't know...or maybe they got them on sale and it was less than what the gift registry might have said, how...what is my obligation to report the \$50 gifts under the new system? I...the \$100...and I'll tell you why I'm asking. Because I think \$100 is a little easier, and probably eliminates a lot of gifts, but when you get in the \$50 range, it's kind of hard to know. So what is the obligation of that school board member, NRD member, anyone under the new law? Do they have to ask the person, how much did you spend on this gift?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: No. No. It...the language that's added in AM2841, which is...or, I'm sorry, AM3201, is based on a good-faith estimate by the individual required to report.

SENATOR THOMPSON: What happens if you're wrong?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, I don't know that anybody will ever know that you're wrong.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Right. But isn't there a penalty?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: This is...now, keep in mind, this is...