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amendment, changes the \$50 to \$200, to \$100 to \$200 in the first general category reporting gifts. But this is the year 2000. This is the year 2000. I don't know how long \$100 has been in place, but I do know that \$50 from a "nonlobbyist", "nonfamily" member has the potential of being a huge trap for the unwary. It creates an almost unimaginable set of circumstances that could befall an elected official. It won't help anything. It won't make anyone more honest. But it will create the opportunity for accusations to be made when there's no fault to be found. So I would suggest that we, at the very least, retain \$100, which has been current law for a long, long time. Again, you cannot receive, it's illegal to receive any gift for more than \$50...of \$50 or more in value, other than perhaps several exceptions in the bill, from a registered lobbyist. I see that the issue of continuity, of having both levels the same for the purpose of understanding by those who must report, is not a good enough reason for me to lower this standard down to \$50. I think we should leave it at \$100. And that, Mr. President, is all this amendment does.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. You've heard the opening on the Coordsen amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Brashear, on the Coordsen amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, I've heard the opening, but I'm going to have to...it will take a while to absorb all that. So I can't decide about the \$100 or the \$50, although I think Senator Coordsen has made some excellent points. I'd like to continue an earlier colloquy with Senator Schimek, if she'll yield, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you yield?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Schimek, I provided you...trying to expedite this, I provided you some photocopies of statutes, which I believe are before you. And I'd like to direct your attention to 49-1436. Now, I read that as being the statutory definition of the phrase "official in the executive branch". Is that correct?