

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

April 4, 2000

LB 1021

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. And going along with what Senator Coordsen said, I think, in listening to the debate here, I didn't ever have the impression that the interpretation was or has been that you could give...that a principal or a lobbyist could give multiple gifts under this provision, as long as those were each under \$50. I've never thought that. And so I'm glad that Senator Beutler has brought the amendment so we could focus on this and make a decision on what is right. Apparently, the Political Accountability and Disclosure Commission has been operating under what they thought was an interpretation that I thought was the right interpretation, but may not be what we all think is what the law says. So, we best clear this up, one way or another, so we're not operating in...in no man's land. And if we can...if the choice is to vote on this, I will support this amendment. If it is to be put into the hopper for discussion, to come back with a solution, you know, that's fine, but it needs to be solved in one way or another. Now I don't know about anybody else, but I...I mean, I don't think, outside of food or dinner sometimes, which you don't know what they're worth, and those are excluded under this provision, I...there aren't a lot of \$50 items rolling around here, at least that I have been receiving, food being excluded and that sort of thing. So I think we can solve this, and I think we should solve it, and so at this point I will just simply say I do support the amendment to clear this up, this whole matter up. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Schimek, on the Beutler amendment. Senator Schimek, did you wish to...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I would like to refer you back to the original language on page 5, where it says, on line 13 "gift shall mean a payment, subscription, advance, forbearance, or honorarium or the rendering or deposit of money, services, or anything of value, the value of which exceeds fifty dollars in any one month period". I don't know about you all, but I've always read that "in any one month period", that gift, if it exceeds \$50, needs to be reported, and I suspect that all of us have. I have just had a short discussion with Senator Beutler, and I don't know that he intends to take this to a vote now. I think that maybe