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receive \$125,000 of public funds that probably should have gone to the school...into the school aid? Should that candidate have gotten the public funds? And I would suggest, not only is it my opinion, but I believe that a majority of Nebraskans would also say no. And that might be reflected with the checkoff on the state income tax as well, by the amount of participation there. Does LB 762 repeal all campaign finance efforts currently on the books? No. This doesn't repeal anything to do with the reporting. To me, the reporting is the most significant and effective mechanism of campaign finance that we have. Rather than infringing on one's right to free speech or free association by whom they receive funds from, you report it. Could we have a better reporting system? Perhaps, but that is not the issue here today. We could have something more responsive, given the technology that we have. But we need to get down to the fact that LB 762 is aimed at fixing a bad situation we have in Nebraska. It isn't working. We know how each and every one of us came to this body. We know whether we were outspent or whether we outspent our opposition. So I don't want to get into every single little race here. But we know that there are a lot of folks who have been outspent. In fact, if you look at the...at some of the statewide races--let's say Governor, which is not covered in the Campaign Finance Limitation Act. Even though there's more criticism of the Governor and his campaign finances by the groups interested in this issue, Governor's race doesn't apply, because it just isn't feasible. Actually, the others aren't feasible either, but there's an attempt to do...to address that. But when we look at campaign finance in general, we can do much better. And there are situations that have been tried and tested and have withstood the scrutiny that doesn't hurt the funding mechanism. We can do much better. And I look forward to a good debate here, because this needs to happen, because LB 762 will bring about an end to a situation that isn't good. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Kruse, followed by 11 others.

SENATOR KRUSE: Mr. President and colleagues, thank you. I join with Senator Smith in welcoming the debate. I think it's a good