

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

January 27, 2004 LB 762

lack of legality...pardon me, lack of legally sound funding sources, an unintended consequence, the act cannot live up to even the minimal standards of effectiveness. We're not...nobody is trying to overwhelm this debate on either side. Simple fact of the matter is we have disclosure, we ought to have disclosure. Maybe we ought to have limits the way the rest of the world does it, but that's for another bill. That's never been the approach here. No, we have fallen in love with a mechanism that dampens down, is broken, and doesn't work. Even if it did work, it depends upon funds from a legally suspect source. If we take away those funds, the fund is empty, so the offer to provide funding is an empty gesture.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Time.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein and members of the Legislature. I wasn't going to get involved in this and I probably won't take a lot of time, but I look at the district that I represent and the amount of money that we are able to raise and spend in that district is adequate. Now, I know every legislative district is different. You get into the city, it's probably going to cost you more dollars because advertising and so on is probably more expensive there. But I can, you know, how many yo-yos and koozies do you need to win an election? You know, there's only so many parades you can go to, there's only so many kids that you can give those to, there's only so many hands that you can shake, and that's what it's about, is being involved in the public. The dollars, in my estimation, aren't that...aren't that great. I have got one newspaper, one major newspaper, in my district, and the ads in that paper are probably about, I would say, a fourth of what they would be in the Lincoln Journal Star or the Omaha World-Herald. And how many times can you get on the local radio station and badger and badger away? People finally get tired of listening to that. I know I do. I get tired of watching. Well, when the regents election was up, you know, I got tired of seeing those people on TV. Let me tell you, I really did. And that turns a lot of