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FLOOR DEBATE

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turnout. That was in a county of over 500 people, so it's a smaller county, but almost all of them voted. So I think the reality here is that we're assuming that we're going to solve a problem that won't be solved by limiting money, and it's the realities we have to get the people back, involved in the process. Now, people have certain assumptions and I think the assumptions are done because people don't have the personal opportunity to speak with their elected officials, and so I think that's also part of this and that's never going to be addressed in CFLA. So, I mean, I'm interested in this. I've seen the effects from one side of it and the reality is that it didn't help me get elected. I got outspent; I still got elected. That was not because of efforts on my part alone, but that was because of the individuals who were out helping me as well, the grass roots that everybody has talked about. Simple fact, campaigns that get outspent and are successful because they have a message or they have a candidate that people talk to other friends, their family about, and those individuals get the name recognition that way. Is it helpful to be able to buy full-page ads in newspapers? Sure, it is. But again, it is also more important to make sure that you have those people involved in the process. I'm in support of LB 762, and I'm in support of LB 762 because of personal experience. And Senator Beutler, again, and I have discussed this as far as my race and how that...how I arrived here. But again, the people in my legislative district look and say, who's spending a lot of money; who's trying to buy an election? I elected...there was maybe one person outside that glass out there that even thought I had a shot at getting here. When I arrived, people assumed that I was going to represent them in that same manner, and that was I was going to be representing those individuals that voted me here, and that's what I've tried to do. And so I can sympathize with the discussion. I watch the federal...the federal issues. But I think what's important that I think should be pointed out here is that at least our law doesn't prohibit free speech. I think that's a value of our limitation that we don't see on the federal level that we'll have to learn to live with as well. So there are some good things with the act; however, I think that the people are smart enough to weigh the issues and understand for themselves what's going on. And I do oppose the bracket motion and rise in support of LB 762.