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spending limit and he or she can't even defend themselves to the public with a mailing, with a radio ad, whatever the case might be? That's not fair, definitely. I proposed a bill this session that is basically a compromise between our current system, which I think is problematic, obviously, and no restrictions whatsoever in terms of spending, and I have proposed that there would be limits to individual and nonindividual contributions. So if someone could generate enough individual and nonindividual contributions, they can knock themselves out in spending those, or their private funds. To me, that gets more to the heart of why we're having this discussion in trying to bring about some independence in this body and not concentrating the support of a candidate among a few special interest groups or a few individuals, and so I have proposed that the individuals be limited to \$500 in contribution and nonindividuals \$1,000. There is nothing magic about those numbers. It was a starting point. And I hope that we can have a good hearing on that issue as a compromise if we cannot get LB 762 advanced. I think we all look at compromises now and then, and I wish we didn't need the system...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...to cap contributions, but I think we also need to keep things in perspective. And the last time I checked, there's more money in America spent on chewing gum than political contributions. And Senator Foley told me earlier that...and look at all the tooth decay we have, but let's just say it's sugar-free and perfect. (Laugh) No, I'm just joking. But let's keep this in perspective. I hate fund-raising probably more than any other member of this body, and I didn't spend any personal wealth, I don't have it, in my own campaign, so I had to raise it, outside the family in fact, and I was able to accomplish it. In fact, it made me more committed to the cause of campaigning for public office. It made me develop a base of support that ultimately brought me to Lincoln.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.