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LR 98

needed \$50,000 more dollars to get elected and the absence of \$50,000 is why he lost the election and 60 percent of the people voted against him? That's the best indication I know that, as the Supreme Court has said,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time is now up, Senator.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: ...money and free speech relate. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Brown, followed by Senator Chambers, on the Foley amendment to LR 98.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I feel like I'm between the bookends, and I don't...(laugh) do I feel like a prairie dog? And I don't like the way the discussion is going, that we're going to throw some old oranges into the basket so that we can conceal whether the apple is rotten on the underside. I did listen to what Senator Beutler said about what we might be able to do. It still is very unclear to me whether that's possible, but I appreciate knowing it and knowing that there may be some legal options. If I would support anything, I will support the amendment that's coming up of Senator Bourne's because I think it's, at least, defensible. But I still have reservations about this whole process because I want to know what coming to an agreement with Accountability and Disclosure means if it doesn't mean, oh, I'll pay all these fines and then we'll move forward. I have concerns about whether we aren't just spitting on an institution that we've created and we expect to have some meaning. And when it's meaning that doesn't accomplish what we want to accomplish, then we just, well, we'll reject that and we'll find a different way to do what we wish to do. I'm trying very hard not to get into this from the standpoint of does this person...do I agree with this person, do I disagree with that person, but really what is the right thing for us to do as a precedent for the way we are going to deal with these situations, the situations in the past that we've dealt with, the situation that we have in front of us now, and future situations. And as much as I understand and appreciate where my friend Senator Brashear is coming from in someways, and I was one of the people that sponsored the legislation that he cited that resulted in most of the fines that Mr. Hergert paid,