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FLOOR DEBATE

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this chart that's been passed out to you, that shows the total expenditures in each of the election cycles since 1978. And this is a very informative chart, I think, with regard to how the Campaign Limitation Act has basically flattened out the expenditure curve on campaign expenditures. Now, this is the Legislature that is charted for you here. Obviously, there's there Regents and a number of other races that are now included. But I take the Legislature because there there are 24 or 25 elections ever two years, and we have a body of elections that begins to statistically mean something. And here's what the chart shows.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: As you can see, from 1978, very consistently, except for 1988, up through 1994, campaign expenditures increased dramatically. Nineteen seventy-eight, you can see a total of about \$350,000 was spent on all of the legislative races. By 1994, the last election cycle where there were not...that was not controlled by the Campaign Finance Limitation Act, that amount had increased to almost \$1.7 million. Now, next election, 1996, the Campaign Limitation Act goes into effect, you can see the overall expenditures dropping. And if you look at the footnote, you'll see that's the first year covered. Then in 1998,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...the expenditures go up somewhat. But you can see also by the footnote that we increase the accounting period...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...from 12 to 16 months.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on LB 188. There are committee amendments, as stated by the Clerk. Chairperson Schimek, you're recognized to open on the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee amendments.