

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

February 15, 2006 LB 188

closing date is eight days before the election, you can't prepare it ahead of time. You have to wait until you complete that date, and so now you have two days to get it in, and in the last few days of any election, you know just how pressed for time you are, and how chaotic it can be, and how difficult it might be, and how easy it would be to forget, or complete it and not get it off in the mail or deliver it in time. And so that's one of the things that I'm looking, from a practical standpoint--not people that are trying to work their way around the law, but people who might be caught in chaos of the moment. And if our goal there is to make sure that they don't have an infusion of funds at the very last minute that they can use, and the opponent doesn't have access to getting some funds to counteract it, I don't know that in six days you could possibly get any kind of media, print article, printed, prepared, in the mail and in the hands of the voter, or even an ad placed in a TV station or a radio station and get it out in time. Unless you've actually planned to do that ahead of time, and you have those items ready to go but for writing the check, I don't think that six days is enough time to really counter with an infusion of spending. So I don't know that that's a benefit, Senator Beutler, and if you would like to respond to that, I'd be happy to give you the remainder of my time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, about 1, 40.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, Senator Redfield, fair question. The time line is tight, but I think one of the things that Don Blank demonstrated in that race out there is that even under current law, and even as late as the 40 percent affidavit would have been filed in that race, with just a couple of days' time, you can prepare in advance to make use of that money, and you can use the money. I'm going to check on the dates in the primary, when he...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...got notice by virtue of the 40 percent affidavit, and actually got some fair fight funds, what the time span was then. But I know that we looked at that and felt that it could happen in that time frame, if you're alert and ready to