

the limits, and the other 50 percent could be used in the primary. Now, if people want to change that division somehow, I'm amenable to that. But I just...I think that we should spell out the limits, not only in the primary, but also in the general, in an effort to try to level the playing field a little bit. And again, I think we have to remember that we're dealing with public financing dollars here, and that's why I think it's so important to make it a reasonable division, or reasonable apportionment of the money. And that's the purpose of the amendment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Bromm. On the Bromm amendment, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I appreciate what Senator Bromm is trying to do here. And I think it's an important thing to do. But I guess I have a question then about whether the amounts that we have written into this bill are correct, are enough or not. For instance, in the gubernatorial race I think that would mean that a candidate could spend no more than \$750,000. Is...I believe that would be correct, Senator Bromm, no more than \$750,000. And that may be enough, I don't know. But if you go back and look at the last election, for instance, I can give you the figures for that. And first we have the pre-election cycle, which is before January 1st, and then Governor Kay Orr spent \$330,458; Ben Nelson spent 77,683. Now, her's was over a three year period, his was over a one year period. Then in the primary election Governor Orr spent \$731,089; Ben Nelson spent 662,380, that was in the primary. Then you get to the general election. And remember this bill...this amendment would allow only \$750,000. Then Governor Orr spent \$1,803,000; and Ben Nelson spent \$968,000 rounded off. Now, maybe that's...that's too much for them to have spent, but to cut what Kay Orr spent down to less than a half of what she did spend is making a huge cut, and you do have to factor in some appreciation kinds of numbers. Cost of television is going to go up, the cost of newspaper ads are going to go up, et cetera, et cetera. There may need to be a cost of living written into the bill, some kind of an inflation factor. I don't know. But I guess I'm not sure how this will work. And one of the things that we have promised to do this summer, the Government Committee, at least I have and have introduced an interim resolution to that effect, is look at the bill, come back with any suggested provisions. And maybe...maybe this is one that we would come back with. But