

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right. And in your scenario, where you wanted to gain recognition, you wouldn't be able to spend 60 percent in the primary and...and...well, you'd have less than 50 left for the general, wouldn't you. So...

SENATOR BROMM: If you were going to qualify, you'd have to adhere to the 50 percent of the primary. But all the candidates would have the same limitations.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I understand that, ight. Okay, thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Seeing no other lights, Senator Bromm, to close on the amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know I don't know if this bill was well thought out and...and these figures were well researched when the bill was passed. But I assume that there...that there was a basis for the figures that are in there. And certainly Senator Schimek's comments are appropriate, and the figures that she recited for the gubernatorial election are somewhat staggering. In a state of our size, in a state of our size, to think that in the last general election we had to spend 2.7 million, almost \$2.8 million in order to help the voters decide who to elect for Governor is...is absolutely shocking. And I...you know, I think...I think it's important to work with this bill, to keep our feet to the fire, so to speak. And I don't know if 50 percent of the primary and no limitation on what you can withhold for the general, versus what my amendment does really is right or wrong. But I do think, I do think that...that what's good for the incumbent is good for the...for the challenger and vice versa. And I do think it's a tremendous disadvantage to the challenger to have no limitation on what percentage of these funds you can use in a general election. In a legislative race the incumbent has a tremendous amount of name recognition and power, and there is no question about that. The incumbent has the opportunity, every day, to have your name in the paper, your picture in the paper. You have a lot of...of course there's also some bad things that can go with that, too. But, nevertheless, I think there's a tremendous amount of advantage that goes with being an incumbent to get re-elected. Now, if we don't have any restriction on the amount of money that the incumbent or any person can reserve for the general election, we are, in my opinion, giving the incumbent one more leg up. And if we're going to use any public dollars to help