

understanding that Senator Beutler has some amendments, one of which deals with checkoff. And I plan to support that. I guess I don't see a reason for not passing this amendment now and waiting to pass it after the Beutler amendment. It seemed to me that the appropriate way to do this would be to pass the Bromm amendment, and then to utilize the Beutler amendments that provide funding mechanisms as a way of just implementing the leg...the funding source. And to wait for the Beut...there's no...there would be no reason for us, or any pressure on us at all, to look seriously at the Beutler amendments if we don't pass the Bromm amendments. So if we're really serious about doing something about campaign spending in Nebraska and about campaign spending limits, I...I feel very, very strongly that we should pass the Bromm amendment and really strike a blow for campaign reform in Nebraska. And I understand Senator Baack's arguments, I think they're good arguments in a technical sense. But substantively, I think with this bill, when it originally passed, we did a...a lot, a lot more than we've ever done in Nebraska to deal with this issue. It is on the forefront of...of the minds of many voters and many citizens of Nebraska. I feel very, very strongly about it, probably more strongly than any we've passed here since I've been here. And I'm glad that Senator Bromm brought this amendment. And, again, I would think the best thing to do is to pass this amendment now, then deal with the Beutler amendments, because then we will have a total package ready to go if they all come together. So, with that, I would rise in support of the Bromm amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Bromm, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise to make a few brief comments and ask you to withdraw the amendment, if that's permissible. I'll keep my comments very brief. I...I think that I would like to see what happens with the Beutler amendment before we proceed with this implementation date. I won't promise that I won't reintroduce the amendment. I...I would say just in withdrawing it that funding...funding is always going to be the problem with this. If we're going to have this kind of a law, funding is always going to be a problem. It's not going to go away. We might as well deal with it, might as well get on with it. And I do feel strongly about that. However, I also feel strongly about Senator Schimek's commitment to do an interim study. And I sincerely hope that that happens. I hope that this body supports it. I hope that we look at what other