

part of this bill that we have been talking about up till now deals with public financing of campaigns and limits on spending. Another part of this bill that was originally passed was...is not concerned with public spending or public financing of campaigns and is not concerned with spending limits so we don't have the constitutional issues that we have just been talking about and some of the concerns that have been raised. What my amendment does is it puts the effective date for the aggregate limits for PAC contributions and contributions from independent committees, businesses, corporations, unions, industry, trade or professional associations and political parties in effect on January 1...could I get a gavel, Mr. President, please.

SENATOR HALL: (Gavel.) Could we please hold down the conversation so the speaker can make his presentation. Thank you.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President. When this Campaign Finance Reform Act was passed, one of the provisions was the aggregate limit on those kinds of contributions. For a legislative campaign the aggregate limit is \$25,000 and it goes up from there. If you look at page 8 of the bill, that describes what those aggregate limits are and we had a great deal of debate on that issue at the time and we passed that measure. There is absolutely no reason why that provision cannot go into effect immediately. There is no spending problem. The technical problems would be minor and certainly could be worked out between now and...could be worked out between now and January 1, 1994. If we are not going to, and it doesn't look like we are going to deal with campaign spending this year and we're going to put it off two years, at least let's do the aggregate limits on contributions from other than individuals. Again, the public policy reason as it was described at the time when this was adopted, was that we should encourage individual participation in campaigns and the only way to really do that is to put limitations on the more conventional forms of financing campaigns through PACs, Political Action Committees, unions, corporations and that sort of thing. And by putting an aggregate limit on what can be raised, we are in effect encouraging candidates to go out and raise money from individuals and which I think is a pure way to do it and is also consistent with many of the reforms that have been going on across the country including reforms that are now being debated and adopted in the Congress of the United States. Again, a great deal of leadership was shown by Speaker Baack in getting