

helpful to honest politicians everywhere in the state. I think there is no place in which it is more important to have honesty than in political campaigns. There are a couple of reasons for that, one, because the subject matter being discussed is so important and, secondly, because of the timing of things. You and I, most of us in here probably, have been subject, for example, to the last minute leaflet, the leaflet that is dropped two days before the campaign ends, two days before election day that says all kinds of things that are distorted, exaggerated, not exactly the whole truth. If you allow this amendment to stay in place, if you do not repeal this amendment, you are going to start to see leaflets out there that go way beyond a little exaggeration, way beyond a little half truth. There is no reason that they couldn't be completely untrue. Is that what you want to revert back to? As a politician I ask you that question. And what about the public? Members of the public do not have the time, they are busy people. They have their lives, their occupations. They are doing their part to build this state. They shouldn't have to have a research and development department in every home in the state to determine whether particular facts are true or untrue. They ought to be able to rely on the fact that statements are true or at least reasonably close to true. By adopting the DeCamp amendment you have essentially made this a right to lie state. You can go out and say anything you want. If there isn't time to correct it before the election is over, well that is just too bad, you get away with it. You may want to debate this question. Maybe you don't agree with me. But let me point out another thing to you and ask you to at least debate it on a different forum. LB 230 is a bill that Senator DeCamp introduced for the explicit and sole purpose of his amendment to this bill. The only thing LB 230 does is exactly what the amendment does that he attached to this bill. Basically he switched on you. He's taken an amendment that is not germane to this particular bill, a completely different bill, and put it into this bill. This bill has to do with conflicts of interest regarding local political subdivisions and the officials of local political subdivisions. It doesn't have anything to do with false statements generally, or that particular section of the statutes. The real bill, the original bill is needed. I would argue with you and encourage you to detach the DeCamp amendment, to wait until LB 230 comes around, to give it a full and fair debate on Senator DeCamp's bill, but give it a full and fair debate