

SPEAKER WITHEM: This is an amendment to the bill. Senator Brashear, you may close on your amendment. Closing's waived. The question is the adoption of the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Brashear's amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Anything further on the bill? Nothing further on the bill, the question before the body now is the motion to advance, which I am well aware, Senator Schimek and Senator Bernard-Stevens, is a debatable motion. Senator Schimek, you are recognized to speak. Or to call an airplane in for landing, whichever you were doing.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, Mr. President. I should have listened to the end of your statement. Senator Brashear, could I ask a question or two?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Brashear.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I tried to listen, but there was other conversation going on around me and I'm not sure...I want to find out, maybe philosophically, why some of the fines were set where they were. And let me just give the one that I am, I'm concerned about. The late contribution one, for instance, sets a filing fee of \$1,500, I mean that's the limit on it, \$1,500. And yet for an independent expenditure, it's a \$300 cap. And there's no, there's no provision for a small late contribution, for instance, it's just any late contribution and you could be fined up to \$1,500. And yet an independent expenditure may be humongous and it's only \$300. Could you give me your rationale please?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Schimek, the rationale is, is simply that when we are dealing with late contributions and special reports by the members of the lobby, we're dealing with those who are most expert in these matters and people who have, who are probably as concerned with any with the integrity of the system. And they have the knowledge and ability to comply.