

May 8, 1973

LB 310

(Begin Belt #17)

And then you go over for example on page 4 and this is really a dilly. It says that until such candidate or his designated nominee or nominees has delivered to such supplier authorization for such expenditure. In other words, nobody can buy anything from the candidate unless he has authorized that it be bought in his behalf for those the suppliers. A candidate shall before ordering any advertising materials or services file with the Secretary of the State or the County Clerk or Election Commissioner as determined pursuant to Section so-and-so. The name or names of such person designated by such candidate who are authorized to approve such expenditure. Then it says, no orders for advertising material or services covered by the provisions of this act shall be accepted from any person on behalf of a candidate for public office covered by this act unless such person is the candidate or the person or persons designated to approve the ordering of such advertising. And then it says for example that upon conviction there of be punished by a fine of not to exceed \$1,000 or by imprisonment in the county jail. Then it says that any candidate for any public office covered by the provisions of this act shall violate the provisions of this act directly or through a designated nominee shall thereupon be guilty of a misdemeanor or shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine equal to five times the amount of the excess expenditures, but not less than \$1,000. And then it goes for example if any individual citizen, any individual citizen shall complain that this has been violated, he shall file with the Secretary of State a bond in the sum of \$500 guaranteeing the payment to the State of Nebraska of all such incurred sums by the State of Nebraska and make an investigation. And the Secretary of State shall notify the remaining members of his board of the filing of such statement and bond and the board shall meet as soon thereafter as is practical and shall cause an investigation to be made of the alleged violation and the expense of such investigation shall be borne by the office of the Secretary of State and shall be included in the regular appropriations of the office. Then it goes on and says that in the case you lose the complaint, then you reimburse the Secretary of State for all expenses incurred in such investigation. Well, how are they going to arrive at the expenses of the investigation? It's unlimited. This bill my friends is, is I presume recommended by the Governor of the State of Nebraska. He's one of these people who are economically involved to the point he wants the convenience, everybody except himself. Now merely because he can't raise money (and he can if he wants to) all he's got to do for example is to hire the fieldhouse like Senator Curtis did and ask everybody to buy tickets. He can get 1,000 people there at \$100 apiece. He can put enough heat on anybody that does business with the State and I think he should and would. He can get all the money he wants but instead of that he goes around the State and asks for a membership of \$500 to belong to the Governor's Club and he knows he's not going to be successful to begin with. Now let's talk about expenditure. Nobody knows any more about it than I do. Senator Curtis had admittedly \$300,000 and I had a tenth of that and I don't begrudge him a quarter of it. It takes something more than money. It almost, he didn't have enough money last time. And this thing is completely ridiculous. I don't think Senator Warner's bill is much better. We shouldn't pass any laws pertaining to expenditures and campaign funds beyond those which now exist in the state and federal government. For what good purpose? Anyone knows whoever runs for public office about 25% or a third of all the money you get is what, in currency, currency. You can't track that down unless you've got a suitcase full of it and about every office of the federal government, maybe then you can by sheer accident. And I don't think you can clean this thing up to the point for example you're going to make it what a lot of people would have liked to make it. This is the kind of business it is. It takes money to operate it. It takes money on the state level and on the federal level and by any