

I don't think living expenses ought to be ...

SENATOR COPE: I don't either but that is certainly the point I want to make. I think that is a pretty broad statement. I don't think that people that contribute to one's campaign, I don't think they want their money to be used other than for the promotion of this person being elected and I certainly for that one part at all would have to oppose the bill. I think it could be opening it up much more so than is being questioned, that is questionable items at the present time. I personally don't like it.

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Cope, if I could just respond.

SENATOR COPE: Yes, go ahead.

SENATOR NEWELL: The problem here is that the real problem came over the use of a newsletter which really promotes a candidate. Now one of the other things too that I have to say is that there are a number of court opinions that say... that almost tear down this section of law. An example, in Minnesota they found that if a guy needed, that a legislator wanted to use campaign funds to get some dental work done. Now the law there says you couldn't do that and consequently he took them to court and won because he argued that that helped promote him and so the law here...you know we are trying to...it is very likely that any sections in this area could be struck down by law anyway. All we are doing allowing here is basically for office expenses and primarily the purpose came up for the use of a newsletter which does promote the candidate and there were a number of people that felt that that was

SENATOR COPE: I think it opens it up just for what you are talking about. I could buy new glasses because if I can't read the bills I certainly am not going to be...do a satisfactory job. My reason for asking these questions is simply I don't think it is going to happen but it could open it up where interests, special interests could put money in the year around to support a person in any office this far and make it a paid position with some special interest and that is what worries me. I am really worried now.

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Ron, one thing I would say is, that the courts may open it up even wider than this bill does. This bill only talks about office expenses. The courts in other states have said that in terms of the definition. So in other words, even if we don't change this section of law to allow for newsletters, what could happen is somebody