

PRESIDENT: We are now ready for agenda item number four, Final Reading. The Sergeant at Arms will secure the Chamber. All members will be at their desks. As soon as everyone is at his or her desks we shall commence with Final Reading for today. As soon as everyone is at your desks we will begin Final Reading. Since there is a motion on the desk on the first bill we may as well go ahead and read the motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit would move to return LB 134 to Select File for a specific amendment. The amendment is request 3134.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think that it is only fair that if we are going to talk about sunshine and talk about accountability that we bring out in the open that type of political activity which can be devastating upon an individual, upon an organization, upon a political party, upon a legislative body without providing any possible means of opposing that activity. I offered this amendment previously, it was adopted, and it is the only one that I am going to offer this morning of the three that were adopted previously. It is known as the Jaksha amendment. At that time I said that I had respect and admiration for Mr. Jaksha. I admire his courage and his integrity and his tenacity, all I am asking is that when one engages in the political theater that you play by the same rules that all of the rest of us play. I want to call your attention again to this ad that was placed in opposition to the construction of the Norden Dam. It is a full page ad paid for by the persons whom Mr. Jaksha works with. The most interesting is this. As we all know some newspapers and some of the media have a different rate that they charge political advertising than they do commercial advertising. The newspaper that ran this ad charged the political rate for it. They considered it a political ad. Which means that I believe, it runs for about \$4,300 a page. It is kind of interesting that this kind of an ad can be run as a non-political ad, be charged the political rate, but that if an elected person such as you or I were to counteract it, the most recent opinion that I have, it would be that those funds would be considered political funds, would have to be accounted for. The donors would have to be identified and the method in which the contributions were raised and expended would have to be accounted for. I don't disagree at all with the right of an individual or an organization to use this method. What I am saying is that when you use it in this manner, it is a political effort. The funds that are raised for that purpose should be considered political contributions, the donor should be identified and the expenditure of those funds