

January 8, 1986

SENATOR GOODRICH: Thank you. Senator Beutler, I notice you include gift, that in the term "gift" breakfast, lunch, dinner, whatever you call it, refreshments in any one month's time for \$25. The way I interpret this is that that is included that we cannot accept more than \$25 in any one month's time, \$25 worth of value in any one month's time, is that correct?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That is right.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Now, we all have received invitations to a dinner tonight. The cost of that particular dinner, and it happens to be...that this happens to be the dinner that is the best group dinner of any function that we go to in the whole session of the Legislature, but that does technically cost more than \$25 per head. So if we interpret this, if I interpret this correctly, we shouldn't go to the darn thing tonight.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, you can go to the thing tonight, Senator Goodrich, and that exemption appears in the first sentence of paragraph four, the personal hospitality of an organization when such hospitality is also extended to a substantial portion of the membership.

SENATOR GOODRICH: All right, now, I have gone, or actually in this case I am the payor, not the payee, so I am just giving an example, but I have had a number of dinners that I have taken someone to that costs in the neighborhood of 125 to 130 dollars for dinner for two. Now that is just one meal. That is something that would be precluded in your rule, right?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I am not sure if I understand your example. If you were the lobbyist, for example, and you would take (interruption).

SENATOR GOODRICH: No, it wouldn't make any difference. If I am the senator and you are the lobbyist, and the dinner costs that much which is common anymore, dinners do cost more than \$25 in a lot of times. We can't go. We can't take it, we can't do it unless we reimburse the guy. That means then that we now have to ask our host at the end of the meal, okay, Mr. Host, what did this dinner cost you, which is none of our business, and we then have to make a scene at the place there to pay him back before we can leave