

has a salubrious effect on the political climate. That effect is to say that there is a form of remedy if the contestants in the race are responsible for knowing untruths. To me that has a very valuable effect in curbing what I think is the excess in political rhetoric and political campaigning. If we think that liable or slander will do that for us, I think we are vastly mistaken. You just can't find it out there as an adequate remedy. I support the Beutler amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers...Senator Higgins, excuse me. Senator Higgins. I'll get this right eventually.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I don't know what you have against me this morning. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT: Well, you've had your way too long, Senator. (Laughter.)

SENATOR HIGGINS: (Laughter.) Okay. Senators, I would hope that you would give as much of your attention to my remarks as Senator Beutler asked you to pay to his. I'm not going to give you an example. I'm going to give you an actual thing that happened in my campaign for Legislature in 1984. As you will recall when I was running for the Legislature I was running against a man and he sent out a letter to the political action committees. I remember the date of the letter was April 7 or 17. In it he said, I am sending to every registered voter in my district, this week, a letter and I'm showing to you what a vigorous campaigner I am. He went on to talk about all of this possibilities of winning. Of course he solicited their support. Now the thing is in his accountability report it showed he only spent twenty some dollars that week or even that month in postage. It was several weeks before he ever spent enough money to even come close to sending out brochures to even half the people in the district. He also advertised that he and his lovely wife had moved into the district in 1975 and they had worked in the district, et cetera, et cetera. I did not file a complaint against that man during my campaign, but a few months later after I defeated him he decided he would try now for city council. At that point I thought it is time the public knows the truth about this man who had written slanderous, half-truths about me, who had falsely advertised that he'd lived 10 years in the district because he hadn't even voted in the district until his name appeared on the