

couple of head notes capsulizing the law in the Buckley case. In contrast to a limitation on expenditure for political expression, a limitation upon the amount that any one person or group may contribute to a candidate or political committee entails only a marginal restriction on the contributor's ability to engage in free association. And then secondarily, neither the right to associate, nor the right to participate in political activities is absolute. Even a significant interference with protected rights of political association may be sustained if the state demonstrates a sufficiently important interest and employs means closely drawn to avoid unnecessary abridgement of association freedoms. The primary purpose of the Federal Election Campaign Act, to limit the actuality and appearance of corruption, resulting from large individual financial contributions is a sufficient justification for the intrusion on freedom of political association, which results from the acts provision limiting contributions to a particular candidate to \$1,000. Now, 40 states have adopted these kinds of campaign restrictions. If we don't pass this, we will be one of ten states that continues to not restrict individual campaign contributions. Also in response to what Senator Wesely argued, this amendment is not something that we just threw onto this bill. The language in this amendment was adopted by and discussed by the Task Force on Campaign Finance Reform that was put together by the Governor. This was a bipartisan task force, including many individuals, lobbyists, special interest groups, Helen Boosalis was a member, Duane Acklie, John Cavanaugh from Omaha, Gordy McDonald, Pat Dorwart. There was a...there was a subsequent decision not to put this amendment into the bill because of the political repercussions. Now, that's...what we're about here is not political repercussions. What we're about is doing the right thing. We all know, we all know the problem with unlimited campaign contributions. I don't have to say it, we all know it. Senator Beutler also mentioned the term limitations problem. I would suggest to you that if we, as a Legislature, do not deal with this problem, the voters will. They will place term limitations on us because we are not dealing with the problem. The perception of the public is that this body is not run by the people, but is run by the special interest groups and the lobbyists that represent them. That is why we have term limitation legislation out there now. That's why it exists. I don't know what the voters are going to do on term limitations. I oppose them. But I'll tell you, I think I would like, in going out in my district and talking against term limitations, I would very much like to be able to say that this