

At the end of the day, if TV stations were required to provide each candidate, especially for major offices with a certain portion of time, that would take most of the finance out of politics. Because the higher up you go, once you go statewide or anything like that, most everything you're doing is just to raise enough money to be able to go on TV. And it's kind of sad. Here in Massachusetts, we have rules that are, and I was there when they were put in place, and you know, they are rules to limit donations to \$500 per person, they're very low limits. And the idea, and that was done in the early 90's, and everybody said this is going to be great because candidates, you know, are going to spend time having to meet people, and raise money from people. And you know what, watching it over time the exact opposite has happened. It's shut a lot of people out from being able to run for office because when you're running statewide and you need to raise, you know I just ran for Lieutenant Governor and needed to raise 2 million dollars. I ran with Charlie Baker who needed to raise 8 million dollars. He needed to find 16,000 people to give him the maximum donation of \$500 in order to get the 8 million, and I had, you can do the math I had the same. So all we did was fundraise 24 hours a day, and I think it took away from other parts of the campaign like going and talking about issues, and you know, being, you know, available to meet people, and again I think it shuts a lot of people out of politics because nobody has networks like that. That they can go out, you know an average person can't do that. I'd rather have, you know, unlimited donations for some, and be able, for somebody to be able to give a candidate a million dollars, but have to report it and disclose it. So everybody knows how their candidate is being funded. Because I think in the end you'll get more candidates. You know, so again what happened is, you know, limiting the contributions supposedly there were going to be more candidates and more competition, and the exact opposite has happened. We're at the point right now where most of the seats in the legislature this year are, they're uncontested, and a lot of the, you know, congressional races aren't contested. We had statewide offices last cycle that we, you know, it was really hard to get anybody to run, because they can't raise the money. And then the other bad negative part is that you get self-funded candidates. So the only people who can run for Governor, or you know, a high office, is people who are multi-millionaires who can, you know, sit down and write a check and finance their whole campaign. And I think that's bad because you don't get normal, everyday, you know, people who are representative of the population as a whole.