

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President, and members, this amendment is a compromise with the liquor people and the cities. And I think what we're attempting to do is try to make it so that it's going to be acceptable to everyone. During the general debate, there was concern that a liquor license is a personal privilege and not property entitlement or an interest therein. And we are going to strike that with this amendment. It's already in the bill another place so we're not mentioning it that it is a privilege or property with a liquor license. And this has been agreed upon, like I said, by the people involved. So both changes are also made in the language as it will appear on the ballot. So the ballot, as it will appear then, it will say, constitutional amendment to authorize governing bodies of municipalities and counties to suspend, cancel, revoke or deny retail and bottle club liquor licenses within their jurisdictions as authorized by the Legislature. So I think this will clear up that it is not any property or privilege. And I think that this is a way that the voters will be able to understand what they are voting on. I would be glad to answer any questions. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Robak, followed by Senators Cudaback and Abboud. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Schellpeper and members, I...I...of all the bills that we've had here, and somebody said that they have one that's the most ridiculous, the most unnecessary or whatever, I happen to think this one should not be put in our Constitution. I think that if we have reached an agreement between the municipalities and the Liquor Commission, or whatever, then we're happy, we're happy with the way it is. We don't need a bill and we don't need amendments and we simply don't need this in our Constitution. Supposedly, the sole intent of this LR 9 is to be put into the Constitution by a vote of the people in order to protect our communities from unnecessary litigation. I don't know if there's really such a thing as unnecessary litigation, for heaven's sakes, everybody is entitled to due process under the law. I mean, if they have a problem, they're entitled to due process. I mean, why are we protecting our communities from undue litigation? If they follow the steps of the way to get a liquor license, there is not going to be any litigation. I oppose this very vehemently. I think it's the most ridiculous thing that we could add to our