

to stay within the law, get in the car, drive to Omaha, it would have to be Monday through Friday, 9 to 5, when those wholesale houses are open, in order to do that. What this allows for them is the opportunity to be able to get by until they do make that trip into the wholesaler. I would urge the adoption of Senator Smith's amendment, and I think that the \$500 was a figure that was agreed to by both parties, both the retailer and the wholesaler's side of the issue. The bill as it is amended by the committee amendments was an agreement on both sides. It has been extensively debated before the committee. It has had numerous interim study discussion hours spent on it. The commission feels comfortable with the way it is set up, and they feel that there is adequate control there to allow for this to take place. The time has come for this to happen. It has been a long time. The wholesalers understand that they need to allow for this to happen. Yes, they don't like it. They prefer to have a lock on the business. Anybody would. But what this does is it requires the paper trail, it allows for a little convenience, and with the cap that Senator Smith offers, there clearly will not be any abuse of the system. I would urge the adoption of Senator Smith's amendment and then my amendment to LB 154. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Goodrich, please, followed by Senator Elmer. Senator Elmer, followed by Senator Smith.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President, members. As a member of the General Affairs Committee, I participated in the interim study group that went across the western part of the state, and several points that the people are talking about, I would like to just try to make it very clear and logical what we are talking about. The three-tier system that is involved is the manufacturer or the brewers and distillers at the first tier, the distributors in Nebraska are the second tier, and the retailers are the third tier. This amendment that we are talking about of Senator Hall involves only one class of retailers to go to another class and purchase a maximum of \$300 worth of products, total, in one year, and that class that would be privileged to do this are those that have the license to sell on-sale spirits only. If they have an off-sale license, in other words, a man could come in and pick up a bottle of gin and put it in a sack and carry it out, they are not able to make this retail to retail purchase, only those like a restaurant or a bar, only, would have this privilege. In western Nebraska where it is 600 miles from Omaha, you can see why a small amount