

to...General Affairs is going to have a meeting today, but what we're doing as part of an amendment that was offered by the Revenue Department is that we are going to give...authorize...the State Tax Commissioner shall employ investigators and inspection, who shall be appointed as Deputy State Sheriffs by the Governor, who shall, upon calling for such office, possess all the powers which attach to such office except the powers and duties restricted in enforcement of the Nebraska Bingo Act. So what we're doing is we're simply taking some of the authority...the state is taking over through this some of the authority of the local body. So, with that, I support this amendment and, really, the cities, as Senator Labeledz and Senator Hall said, there's only been one case in the City of Omaha and I think there's been less cases in my city. So support the amendment, support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Hall, could I interrupt you just briefly to ask a couple of questions?

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, would you respond, please.

SENATOR HALL: I'll try.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Hall, my understanding, in conversing with you briefly on the subject, is that Lincoln would collect on the city tax portion at this point about half of what Omaha does and the rest of the state combined would take...it would be about what Lincoln does. Is that correct?

SENATOR HALL: That's correct, Senator Bernard-Stevens. The total revenue that's collected at the municipal level is approximately a little over 800,000. Omaha collects a little over 400,000, Lincoln I think is approximately in the neighborhood of 200,000 and the balance is collected across the state.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Hall. Also, bingo is played in other places besides Omaha, we have established, I mean, Lincoln does play for charitable purposes and throughout the state there are other areas that play bingo for charitable purposes as well. Is that correct? But the bill would not take away the city collection in those areas at this time. Is that