

accepted in state law.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I understand but I respect your opinion. Do you see gambling as a moral issue?

SENATOR BECK: It's...the moral issue put aside, Senator Chambers, I don't know what you want me to say so that you can continue on, but I really enjoy this discourse with you. The thing of it is, this is a constituent input. It's my only bill that I did all by myself. It's my priority bill and may I appeal to your sense of charity this morning.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beck, when I'm in this mood Scrooge is a bleeding-heart liberal compared to me.

SENATOR BECK: But what about the kinder and gentler year we were going to have, Senator Chambers?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beck, I don't have any more questions of you. (Laughter.) Senator Beck is very, very smooth and I think we can all see the quandary...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that these types of issues put us in. We know that we cannot view gambling as a moral issue and support a bill like this. But if we're going to be opposed to another form of gambling, then it does become a moral issue in order that we can oppose that. Either gambling is a moral issue or it is not. My good friend, my good young friend, Senator Hall, would agree that if we were going to deal with this issue on a basis that Thomas Aquinas would establish, we would look at the essence of the matter that we're dealing with and base our judgment on that. And I think the conclusion is that gambling has been cast as a moral issue because the many have to lose in order that a few can win. The element of chance, the allure of it, are the things that have been viewed by some to be detrimental to a society and an undermining of the moral fabric, but because the church wants it then it takes on a different nature. So if the churches began to sell liquor, then...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired. Thank you, sir. Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members, this morning's