argument has revolved around two basic premises, I guess, one is that the tax is unfair, it's too high and the City of Omaha doesn't really need the money because it really doesn't provide services to support bingo activities. The other argument, the argument that several have raised, including myself, is that by lowering the tax or, in this case, eliminating the tax for the City of Omaha, you lessen the dollars collected that go in...lapse into the General Fund of the city that support other services and I assume the loss of that revenue will be either picked up in property taxes or later picked up by this body in some state appropriation. I guess my concern is that that's what's going to happen. We're going to see some form of this state appropriations picking up some of the lost revenue that has been provided to the city through the bingo tax. I did not support the amendment. I probably...since the amendment now becomes the bill, I'm reluctantly going to not support the bill. However, I guess I would renew my call for this bill to serve as a vehicle to discuss the entire issue of bingo and pickles if there are enough votes to advance it to consider taking some of the provisions of 660 and putting them in here...in this bill. And I guess I...that's all I really have to offer but I still have concern with the fact that the revenue that has been collected for the city has been supporting services that are necessary to Omaha and I assume that that money is going to have to be made up someplace else and if people want to pick it up in property taxes, that's fine with me, but I assume that the state as a whole will share in that by picking up the increased appropriations through some program or services that we help provide for Omaha.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Beck, followed by Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR BECK: Well, again, I have the same argument, proportionately it's a simple bill and it's a simple argument. Yes, I think the tax is unfair and I think that those that listened yesterday to LB 660 heard many people saying that and not just people from communities. These were lobbyists, state agency people saying that the tax is unfair, across the board it's unfair, and we're just talking about bingo tax here. I want to make certain that the senators understand that we're not eliminating the money that goes to Omaha. We are asking for a 2 percent reduction which amounts to $200,000 and in no way do we want to raise the property tax in Omaha, that's...we don't believe that's even conceivable, nor are we going to ask the