

willing to wager that the activity will probably more than double and their costs will be more than covered with regard to the issue of enforcement and regulation with this amendment. So I would urge the body to adopt this amendment to the committee amendment that takes their portion from 30 and increases it to 35, so that they can, basically, cover their costs. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before recognizing Senator Smith, I am pleased to announce that Senator Byars from the 30th Legislative District has some guests in the north balcony, fourth grade students, 28 of them, with their teachers. They are from Diller, Nebraska, and you will notice the children are dressed in their pioneer costumes. Will you folks please stand and be welcomed. Thank you for visiting with us. We are glad to have you. Discussion, Senator Smith, followed by Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Seeing those children, those school children in their costumes, their pioneer costumes, reminds me of Nebraska's Centennial, when I was a school teacher, so it takes me back some years ago. I would reluctantly at this point in time support Senator Hall's amendment since my amendment did fail. I am not saying I am not going to be back again folks. I might try it again on Select, but at this point in time since my amendment for the 3 percent increase or tax to the 3 percent failed, I do want to make sure that the Gaming Commission does have enough money so that they can operate and do all of the things they need to do in regulation. So I will support the Hall amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would also rise to support Senator Hall's amendment. I think that I was also going to offer an amendment to raise it up to 50 percent, but I think by talking that this seems to be...at this time seems to be enough to do the operation and so forth as far as the Department of Revenue and I, hopefully...in our earlier discussion with Senator Schmit, I hope that we do get, that they do come out and regulate the operation and so forth. So with that, I rise and hope the body supports Senator Hall's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any closing, Senator Hall?