

effort, but I can understand where other cities may not, for example, the City of Ralston, which has a local lottery right now, may not want to allow the City of Omaha, if it should choose, or the City of Papillion to cross over into their boundaries, and I think today I guess I feel that they should have that opportunity to, basically, say who can come in and operate as a competitor, or whether a city chooses not to allow the sale of tickets in their boundaries at all. There may be a community that just chooses not to have this, and I think to allow for the ability for that city to do that is what was intended prior to 1986 and the inadvertent misplacement of that statute is not a good enough reason I guess at this time for me to change my opinion on that. I do understand the issue and the concern, especially in the Douglas County-Omaha area because it is a more serious concern there because if the City of Omaha had decided not to let Douglas County in, Douglas County would, basically, only have the fringe area of Waterloo, Elkhorn, and that would be just about it, to sell lottery tickets. They would virtually be shut out of the local option lottery business. So when I say today this is where I stand on the issue, I hope that that area where I come from is able to work out some kind of an agreement like they had in the past. They had a cooperation effort, cooperation between the two entities, so that they did allow for interaction between them. I think they need to move in that direction again but I do also believe that in some of the other areas of the state there may be communities that do not wish to either (a) allow anyone in or allow for competition, and I think they should have that right. So at this point in time, I am going to oppose Senator Smith's amendment to leave that provision that is in Section 49 of the bill intact. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, also, rise to oppose Senator Smith's amendment. I think she was kind of wavering on whether she was for it or against it, but I think if I can put it in context of I think Senator Smith lives in Adams County, and if we can put a scenario is that say that the County of Adams votes for it and that includes the City of Hastings votes for it, and say the county is say for the amendment, I don't know what the population of Adams County is, but say that their... a high percentage, say 90 percent of the people in Adams County are for the lottery and Hastings turns it