

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: They could say no as it stands now.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I was trying to interpret what you said in your handout sheet.

SENATOR SMITH: I am sorry.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I was trying to interpret what you said in your handout sheet, and you mentioned Beaver Crossing, that is the only reason I used that, in your handout sheet that they, if this...maybe you referred to it, that they could operate, and that is what I wanted to be sure of, if we change this, only then could they do it. It is right in the middle, not only could Beaver Crossing, for example, run their lottery in Omaha, they could run it statewide. In the middle of the explanation.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, before the amendment, we attacked it two ways in the bill. We had removal of Section 49, and also we made provisions to stay within their locality. So what you would be doing if you voted for the amendment, you would be allowing counties to conduct lotteries in cities that did not approve them. If you vote against the amendment, what you are saying is cities should have the power to regulate and control whether or not they want lotteries within their own limits.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That is the way I understood it and I wanted to be sure I understood it right because I, also, would oppose the amendment for that reason. I think, philosophically, I will use the point that if you are to raise money the way we have it set up now with lotteries, raising money within the defines of a local unit of government makes sense, and avoids the unregulated or wild growing of expansion into other areas without some amount of authority or control doesn't really make sense, and I guess since I probably would have went from neutral to against as I have understood the explanation, I wanted to be very sure I understood it. But I think it makes sense to stay within a geographic area and I would see no reason to expand that, so, therefore, I would be against your amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any other discussion? Senator Smith, would you care to close?