

of business which is a very substantial and respectable business and we ought to, I think, try to accommodate them. But I want to point out that this language gives the cities a considerable latitude for the control of any kind of operation because of the regulations of the taxes, et cetera, which they may propose. I think that I would prefer, since the State of Nebraska chooses to wash its hands of lottery, I would prefer that we give the cities and the counties the maximum amount of flexibility in regard to the control. If the city chooses to operate only a single facility, that would be satisfactory with me. If they choose to operate two or 10, that's the decision of the local governing body. If they choose to operate two kinds of lottery, it would seem to me that that ought to be left to the discretion of the city.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Why do those of us on this floor who do not understand the peculiarities of the system choose to write the rules rather than to allow the local governments to do so? I think, in this one instance, again, I would prefer it were a state lottery but since we don't have a state lottery and we only live off the existing operations, then why don't we just let the cities draw the rules and regs and we can live off the tax that we collect from them.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, would you like to close on your amendment, please.

SENATOR SMITH: I would just have a short comment to make in response to some of the things that I just...that you were saying, Senator Schmit. I would just say that the purpose of this piece of legislation is to restrict the type of, if you want to call it, gambling that go and also to regulate. And it would be very difficult if we had no, in my thinking anyway, it would be very difficult if we had no limits as to the type of gambling that could go on and still try to regulate that from the state level. We would have to have...I mean, regulation of all types of things. And, I guess, in my thinking, it's just easier this way and if we're going to allow cities and communities and counties to decide whether or not they want to have their own local gambling, I feel very strongly it should be regulated. And I guess, with that, I will just say that I would hope that folks will support this amendment and close. Thank you.