

May 10, 1989

LB 767

PRESIDENT: The Smith amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner would move to amend. Senator Hefner's amendment is on page 2064 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, amendment 1471 which is on page 2064 puts all cities and counties on the same level. The amendment strikes the grandfather clause and states that, regardless of the date of the original voter approval for a lottery, if four consecutive years have passed without the operation of a lottery, voter approval must be given again. And I believe this would affect about eight cities. And so I move the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, please, followed by Senator Hall.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the body, I will have to oppose this amendment and the reason that I oppose it is because of the fact that it will be very expensive if they have...if the...I think that if a city has elected by a vote of the people to be able to institute a lottery in that community but still not enacted that lottery that I see no reason for another vote to be taken to take that right away of the lottery. It does cost. I was told it costs as much as \$250,000 in a city like Omaha in order to do something like this. And I believe that the amendment that we just adopted actually, indirectly, will take care of this concern that you have, Senator Hefner, because what we're doing is saying that after they started the operation of the lottery if enough of the people decide this is not something that they want to see going on in their community or they see some problems with it, they can have an election to remove that lottery from the community. And so I guess I will have to oppose this because I don't believe this is necessary and I think that it would be very costly.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please, followed by Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, again, I would reiterate just what Senator Smith said and rise to oppose Senator Hefner's amendment because, basically, I don't think