

it's needed now. I think Senator Smith's amendment that we just adopted preempted this amendment in that it allowed for those individuals who, for whatever reason, may not want the lottery to take place, to put that issue on the ballot. And that's only in cities and towns that have already adopted that provision through an election. With Senator Hefner's amendment, what that means is that if there is a community for one reason or another who haven't used the lottery provision and it has sat idle or dormant for four years, they will have to go through the entire process and costs of another election to provide for that lottery to take place. Just last night, for example, there were two communities very near Omaha and Douglas County that both adopted the local option lottery overwhelmingly, Waterloo. It was somewhere in the neighborhood of 90 percent in favor, 10 opposed; and Elkhorn, the community of Elkhorn, 70 percent in favor and 30 percent opposed. Those individuals voted on that and put it into place. Now they had never voted on the issue before and that's fine, that's the way it ought to work. But by adopting Senator Hefner's amendment, what you do is you say if Elkhorn decided not to use it for whatever reason, it laid dormant for four years, they would have to come back five years now...from now, go through the expense of an election even though the community overwhelmingly at the time supported it. Now if there are individuals who want to take it off the books, then it ought to be proactive on their part and they should have to, as we have already adopted through Senator Smith's amendment, which I think is a good amendment, put the issue on the ballot and up to a vote to rescind that. So I would urge the body to reject Senator Hefner's amendment, basically, because I don't think it's necessary at this time since we have adopted Senator Smith's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator Hefner, could I ask you a question?

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: This...your amendment simply deals with communities that have not conducted the lottery for a period...four years. Is that correct?

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Hartnett, yes. If they voted in a lottery and have not been conducting a lottery, after four years