

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please, on the amendment to the amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, the amendment has a provision in it that eliminates the local government option to authorize more than two bingo occasions in one facility within the...on the same premise within one week. That was put into law in order to allow folks in the rural area where there was one hall but there was two organizations that wanted to operate bingos. What's happened is that in Omaha...it's never been used, to my knowledge, request has never been authorized except for in Omaha. And the City Council in Omaha did that at the request of a very viable and good organization, Paralyzed Veterans Association, because they could not find a hall that they could operate in under the provisions that were in statute. So they gave them that waiver. My amendment to the bill would strike the elimination of that and what the bill allowed for that the amendment did was say that...grandfathered in that organization and struck it for the cities, basically, the cities of Lincoln and Omaha so that it would still have been in place for the rural areas. What I have done is...with this amendment to the amendment, is pull that back out, allow for it to currently exist as it does. I will bring that back in as a bill next year so that the City of Omaha can come down and testify. They have said that they have no intention of authorizing any other exemptions to this provision and would ask that it go away for this year so that they can talk about it next year when a bill is introduced. It's an amendment to the amendment that would eliminate that striking of that local exemption for the cities of Lincoln and Omaha as I offered originally in the amendment. I would urge the adoption of the amendment to the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit or Senator Smith, did either of you wish to speak to this amendment to the amendment? Okay. The question is the adoption of the Hall amendment to the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. If you care to vote, please do so. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the Senator Hall amendment to the amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Okay, the Hall amendment to the amendment is adopted. Now we're back to the amendment that we were with a little bit ago. Senator Schmit, did you wish to speak to that?