

Senator Smith, did you wish to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will just make a short statement. I would tell the body that we heard the provisions that have been included in this amendment in different legislative bills that were brought to the General Affairs Committee but we had such a...we wanted to deal with the lottery issue this year and, as you see, this bill has become such a huge bill because we have added a lot of things as far as amendments and we did take a lot of things out of other bills in committee and added it to the bill as I brought it to you to the floor. But I would tell you that we just didn't think we would have time to deal with all this too and I commend Senator Hall and his staff for taking the time to work all of this out and bring it to us. And, for that reason, I am supportive of it. That's all I need to say then on the end is that the last provision of the amendment which allows a licensed or a previously licensed organization to lend, sell or donate its bingo equipment and supplies to another licensed organization under certain circumstances is something that we felt needed to be addressed. So this way this is taken care of and this was a concern that we did really want to see addressed this session. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, would you like to close on the amendment, on the advancement of the amendment or adoption of the amendment?

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, I would just again urge the adoption of the amendment as it's a compilation of a number of issues that, as Senator Smith pointed out, came before the General Affairs Committee. Some cleanup language, gives the Department of Revenue some...more record keeping authority with regard to the manufacturers and distributors, provides for some licensure on those same individuals and I think just does, basically, some housekeeping sorts of things. So I would urge adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Nichol...or Mr. President, I mean, Lieutenant Governor Nichol...

PRESIDENT: You're making progress. We're both making progress.