

SENATOR NELSON: You probably have the right answers. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, in response to Senator Smith's...or, pardon me, not Senator Smith, Senator Nelson's concerns, first of all, as Senator Conway indicated, grandfathering an existing operation refers to that which is already in existence, which in the case of the Crown Court operation is already there. It doesn't oper. up anything else. It had to be an existing operation according to the amendments offered by March 1 of '89 and they were in operation. Second, and I think, as Senator Hartnett has pointed out, this is a small operation. It's primarily entertainment and this ought to be one of the...or two of the redeeming factors in this operation. We have been told...we just...we just heard a little while ago from Senator Crosby where she said that gambling...you know, bingo used to be fun. You played for a coffee pot. Well, in this instance, it has been explained by Senator Hartnett, they don't play for a lot of money. They don't win a lot of money, lose a lot of money, it's entertainment. And maybe that ought to be a redeeming quality if there is a redeeming quality in this operation. Most importantly, of course, is that this individual isn't influential. He's not down here beating on your door or asking for anything. He's not going to try to fight the Legislature. But I want to call attention to something, originally the proposal was to outlaw keno. It was to outlaw keno. That was what the original intent was of this bill. All of a sudden, it was realized that there would be too much opposition to an attempt to try to outlaw keno so we didn't any longer try to outlaw keno. Then, of course, came the question, but what can we do? There was also a proposal to outlaw pickles. As had been explained earlier on this floor, can't outlaw pickles anymore because pickles have proliferated to the extent that there is too much support for them. The people have decided they wanted to adopt pickles which you and I know are difficult, at very best, to regulate and, at the worst, are totally unmanageable. In this instance, you have an operation which, to my knowledge, has never violated the law, is totally manageable, is totally under the jurisdiction of the state, was established legally, was established legally. I believe, Senator Hartnett and Senator Conway have indicated, some of the...of the ambivalence about these...about this type of an operation is due, in fact, that each year the Legislature