

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit would move to amend. (The Schmit amendment appears on page 2267 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I offer this amendment because I believe that most of us here didn't even realize that the bill will provide for a substantial increase in the amount of revenue that will be collected by the operator. And I think that that ought not to go without some sort of comment. It is sort of ironic to me that the same body that would say, no, we're going to put out of business a small individual operator who, for some reason or another, does not measure up to certain specifications that we would then, without any debate, increase by 50 percent the amount of revenue the operator can receive for operating the keno operation. Now that's a pretty healthy increase even by these standards. And I would have to suggest that perhaps these standards become somewhat liberal from time to time. I would like to also call your attention, if you would take note, that the language allows an exemption for license fees paid to the department, audit or legal expenses incurred by the county, city or village which relate directly to the conduct of operating such a lottery. Ladies and gentlemen, I think you will find that you will come back in future years and strike that language. Senator Nelson was concerned about open-ended language before and she is right. Frequently, we do this and we do so inadvertently but we are providing here, we are allowing here for expenses far and above what of what a 15 percent limitation would indicate. And, secondly, the 15 percent which we allow here is a 50 percent increase over the 10 percent that had been allowed. Now if you want to do that, that's fine with me. But I think you must remember that the existing systems operated very successfully with a 10 percent limitation. Now do you want to make money for the operator or do you want to make it for the entity? I don't really know what the purpose is of the bill. I would suggest...and I don't know who suggested the 15 percent, if I were the operator, I would like it fine, and I may just be calling attention here to something which others would prefer not to have mentioned. But a 50 percent increase in the amount of money allowed to go for operation is a rather healthy increase. Over the years, that 10 percent number has been suggested that it ought to be lowered. Sometimes it was debated, sometimes it was not but it has remained about