

SENATOR LYNCH: But there is authority given to counties here...

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, to be called...they are construed to be communities, too.

SENATOR LYNCH: So they would have the right to make decisions for renewal.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

SENATOR LYNCH: Quick example, if I can, because I have some concerns...

SENATOR SMITH: Sure, sure.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...without reading it and going into some detail. For example, what if a little town, or community or county was taken over by a group of people that didn't like drinking at all, they really thought it was sinful and nobody should ever do it. What would happen, for example, well, Ernie doesn't believe in drinking; took over Ernie's part of town and he decided, somebody came along with their renewal for a liquor license, and they controlled the city council. Would the fact that morally, ethically and in principle, by design and as far as their way of life is concerned and whatever else it might be they decided that their town shouldn't have this bar that existed for 40 or 50 years. Do they have the authority, under this act, to say you don't get your renewal? And then how would they appeal, if they didn't like it? An extreme example, obviously, but, you know, it could happen, for example.

SENATOR SMITH: Yeah. Basically what would happen is if...what we're doing is we have no choice, Senator Lynch, we have to either give local option, or we can't let them have it. We can't just do it, so that's why we went this way. What it would do now is say we give it to you, the communities, to decide, do you want to allow this license, based on...they must follow the criteria which is set out in here. And I remind you, this is not new, we went through...this is...what you see, the pages and pages are the standard they must follow, all that stuff in there that was in there, it's not new, it's what we did together in committee.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay.