

activity. I am not saying it is good or bad. I am just saying it ought to be done legally. I don't see how anyone can argue with that. I am going to try to draft an amendment for this bill prior to Select File that will require the pickle tickets to be distributed by the Department of Revenue from an approved source, accountable to the Department of Revenue. Now I am sure that there is going to be someone stand on this floor and say, you are going to put my constituent out of business. Well, that may be true. Maybe the department can license that individual, I don't know, but the point I wanted to make is this, you would not allow a private individual to print currency and circulate it at will. Why should you allow anyone to print a substitute currency and to circulate that also at will? I want to go back once again to what I said earlier. Ladies and gentlemen, the State of Nebraska makes a terrible mistake when we do not acknowledge the existence...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...of billions of dollars worth of gambling activity in this state and we do not tax it properly. I don't care whether it is for the churches, the charities, or any other entity. Lastly, of course, as Senator Labeledz has pointed out, a vast majority of the pickles are not sold by churches. They are sold in bars and other outlets for a variety of reasons and purposes, but if you are going to have it in operation, then you ought to have it as legitimate as possible and, ladies and gentlemen, there are ways you can do that. To the extent that you do not do that, we are all guilty of allowing it to continue and allowing the law to be circumvented. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President and members of the body, I think a lot have been talking about the various schools and areas like that, but in my particular community, the thing that the pickles are used for is we have a volunteer fire department and that is what it is used for. So I think the use of pickles, monies from pickles is much broader than for private schools and churches and it involves other organizations, such as in my community, a volunteer fire department. And with that, I'd give the rest of my time to Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.