

for the purposes of running a lottery, whereas a bingo license that a not-for-profit could have in place would qualify under the definition of "lottery." So, in essence, they can have a bingo license and then begin running a keno game.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Is there a chance, Senator, that under this situation someone who... would you have to apply to the Department of Revenue for permission to operate, or to whom do you apply now, or will we ever have, as was proposed once, a Gaming Commission in this state?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Schmit, interesting you should ask that. The very amendment that Senator Smith withdrew was that amendment that dealt with a Gaming Commission, and I know that the... she and the committee have introduced a resolution to that effect over the interim, but that was the specific amendment that she withdrew to the bill prior to this amendment.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Hall. I have a hunch that there may be a little bit more in this amendment than what we can see on the surface of it. Senator Hall understands it very well.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I don't know that anyone else does, but that wouldn't be the first time that that was true on this floor. And I would just like to say that I support the bill, support what they are trying to do, but I want to reemphasize that unless the racing industry embarks upon some new ideas and attempts to meet competition that, no matter what we do on the floor of this body, racing will not continue to exist in this state. I have suggested that the Gaming... the Racing Commission has it within their prerogative at this time the ability to expand the number of simulcast outlets by simply licensing three, four, five or six more tracks in the state. They only need to run one day of live racing. They could provide simulcasting opportunity for Scottsbluff, Chadron, Ogallala, North Platte, Valentine, a number of other areas in the state which could substantially increase the handle.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would hope that the Racing Commission will not just sit here like, as if a pilot at the controls of an