

with any of this activity, and so I will give the remainder of my time to Senator Schmit if he will give me one moment back when he's done.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Senator Schmit.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Yes, how dare you, Senator Conway, to try to legalize anything that is probably going on now illegally. You know, it's kind of interesting once you get a little corner carved out for yourself, your little niche, you try to keep everybody else out. I don't see anything particularly wrong with what Senator Conway has proposed. I agree with Senator Withem. It's not a radical change. It says that if you're operating a little keno game and someone decides they want to propose to the city that they operate a scratch-off ticket, that they can do that, that ought to be compatible. One of the concerns I think you ought to have about this situation is how it is implemented and who makes that decision. I think so long as you get the approval of the Department of Revenue, it would not be any major catastrophe, and I guess I get a little bit amused when I hear all of the things we have to do to protect the people from gambling. One of these days hopefully you can all get up on the top of the Woodmen Tower and look out on the Missouri River and watch the riverboat go cruising down the river and there will go the last remnants of what could be some sort of revenue for the State of Nebraska. And then you can say, well, we have purged ourselves of all those sins with the exception, of course, of billions of dollars worth of illegal gambling which will continue to flourish and not pay taxes to anyone, and will continue to perhaps corrupt the morals, not only of those who play, but those who provided the opportunity to play. I commend Senator Smith for her study. I would hope, Senator Smith, that the study is wide open and that you bring in all those elements of gambling which can be of help to you and that then, in that manner, perhaps you might learn something rather than to listen to the nongamblers who consistently tell you we don't want any gambling and if we don't want any gambling and then close our eyes to that which exists we just don't have to have it. And so, with that, I will give my... the rest of my time back to Senator Conway.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Senator Conway, approximately two minutes.

**SENATOR CONWAY:** I won't need that, Mr. Speaker. What I'd like to do is withdraw the amendment.