

reason I'm offering this amendment is if you remember this past summer, prior to the election, these were the people who came out, and rightly so, said we want a true state lottery. They were the folks that made up Citizens For a True State Lottery. Why did they do that? Because they didn't want the competition, they didn't want the state to be in the operation of a video lottery proposal. Well the fact of the matter is, the proposal that was before the folks on the ballot was a piece of garbage, and it deserved to be defeated. And I applaud those individuals for that. But, ladies and gentlemen, they came in on a bill that, coincidence, I happened to introduce this year, it was for a video lottery as well. They made the same arguments that it wasn't a true state lottery, that video lottery was a terrible proposal, and that the state shouldn't get into this entity, this business. Ladies and gentlemen, what it is for these people is business. And they are only in it, and they are only out for themselves. They do not care about protection of anything but their own ability to manufacture and sell pickles. And should there be any additions to gambling endeavors throughout the state, they're going to oppose those, unless it happens to be some place where they can make money printing part of that operation. Yes, they're printers, and they're in the business of printing, and they make money doing that.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: And we should tax them, when we can, when we have to license them and have the ability to prevent the state from raising much needed revenues, I would argue, and other entities, and oppose those for their own self-interests, then I have no problem raising the tax, or the license fee, excuse me, ten-fold, because, frankly, if they have the money to put together the kind of media campaign that they've done, then I think they must be doing fairly well in their business endeavors. And I think pickle cards and the manufacture of that has a lot to do with that, because the proponents of those type of operations again have a lock on the business. We ought to charge them in proportion to what we allow them to do, which is have a free reign in a business that we then have to bear the burden for regulation and oversight. Senator Smith, you're right, the bill ought to have a public hearing. I will do that. I'll withdraw this amendment, at this point,...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.