

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

SENATOR NELSON: In plain, old, simple language, when you talk about mechanical interreaction, in my language, would that be slot machines?

SENATOR SMITH: The video, yeah, that's the name for them that we like to call them, the slot machine, yeah. You're right.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you. That's probably what I wanted to hear. I guess I will definitely support Senator Smith's amendment. I think we're starting down the road of get rich quick schemes and promoting...the state promoting gambling and that leads people to believe, well, there goes...I can maybe make a buck and they don't care whether they're savings. We're told for educational purposes, I have yet to see a state that gained anything on a lottery for education. It may be very minor states that have just as big shortfalls or more. So citizens feel like that, well, okay, this state has to compete with the next state and pretty soon we all believe that we must spend more to advertise and to gamble more. And I say, so be it if we lose two or three, four million over to another state, I'm sure the consequences would not justify the end cause. And I know that the old argument, well, Iowa's going to have it, South Dakota has got it, go to the people of South Dakota and ask them or go to the people in Iowa and ask them how good the lottery is. And, at this point, until I sit back and listen for more, I certainly have to find out a lot more that good may be coming of the slot machines or the gambling than what I've found so far. And I will listen but I do support Senator Smith trying to control what I call the slot machines.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I just want to speak very briefly about the constitutional amendment. I respect that Senator Smith has introduced this at the Governor's request but I want to point out what I think are some serious fallacies in the entire issue. First of all, there is no real objection to having a constitutional amendment as to whether or not we have a state lottery with the exception of the fact that we really do not need it. Secondly, Omaha is geared up to have a keno operation and once they get into operation with the keno, there will not be any need for a state lottery. The City of Omaha will have 20, 30, 40 millions of dollars in their coffers