

newspaper in the state will say, good idea but how can you repeal the credit of the state just to protect 15, or 20 or 30 million dollars for Commonwealth depositors? And they will be right. So, while you're at it, ladies and gentlemen, Senator Chambers used to say in reference to one of our other members, he is not a fool but he does foolish things.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Now that is exactly what we're doing here. You people are not fools. We are not fools but we are doing something very, very foolish. We are tic, tac, toeing around the situation and around the issue. We will not face reality and, therefore, I want to tell you this, I'm not going to embarrass anyone here today but in the event that you continue to leave the antivideo lottery language in the amendment, before the bill is heard again, I will go to each of your districts and secure the names of the establishments where illegal machines are now in operation and I will read them off. I will start with Abboud and I will go all the way to Withem. And, ladies and gentlemen, when that is over then you can decide if you want to continue to hide behind the flag or if you want to face reality. I know that it's...that there are good intentions here. I know that Senator Smith and her committee has worked on it very long and diligently but what do you...what do you gain by refusing to acknowledge...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...the fact that as of this time the state loses hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue because we simply will not enforce the law.

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

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I am in opposition to the Smith amendment concerning the ban on video lotteries. Rationale I think is probably somewhat similar to what I heard from Senator Will and that is not so much that I'm a proponent of video lotteries, probably if there was an amendment on the enabling legislation to create a video lottery system, I would oppose that at this time. But I don't think we ought to place in the Constitution foreclosing whatever opportunities future Legislatures may wish to avail themselves of. Point number one may be a stronger point with me, and this