

it honestly, saying that there is a lot of money going to be spent, we ought to try and keep as much of it here in Nebraska. I think we can do that. We can do that through licensing fees as well, but when we foreclose any opportunity for competitive bids we are at the mercy of those individuals who are capable of handling this business and there are very few of them here in the State of Nebraska. You, in essence then, take the bid that they offer because that's the only bid that you're going to get. I would urge you to at least take a look at this amendment and think it through on your own. I intend to oppose it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. I'll now recognize other senators wishing to speak to this amendment. Senator Withem. Senator Wesely. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President and members. I'd like to ask Senator Smith a question if I...she's supposed to be the expert on lotteries.

SENATOR SMITH: Don't count on that.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: If the state would join like Lotto America, can it be state run or do we have to have somebody else come in to run the lottery for us?

SENATOR SMITH: If you join Lotto America, my understanding is that they have a central office where it actually comes out from the central office but we connect with it at the state level. We can also run our own state lottery in addition to being part of Lotto America.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: How does Iowa run theirs? Is that state run?

SENATOR SMITH: Iowa has a state lottery and then they're also a part of Lotto America. They have two.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: It's run by the State of Iowa?

SENATOR SMITH: Not Lotto America isn't. Lotto America is an organization of a number of states that is headquartered, in my understanding, because we visited the offices in Iowa, but that's a separate entity from the Iowa lottery. Lotto America is a separate group which we can become a part, if they allow