

May 7, 1991

LB 849
LR 24

further on the bill?

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: We are now on the advancement of LB 849. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, Senator Smith, do you wish to close on the advancement of LB 849? Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, I simply would urge you to advance LB 849. It now contains what we have been talking about all along. It is a bill that would establish an on-line lotto game which is like Lotto America and like the drawings that occur, and it would establish an instant game, a scratch-off game. Those would be the two types of games. We would spend the money, divide it along the lines of the Hall amendment earlier today with 50 percent going for the education programs contained in the original committee amendment, half the money going to a special fund to be dispensed later. And the two key points I want to make again, no video lottery is included in this. This would specifically preclude the use of video lottery by the State of Nebraska. And, secondly, this would not take effect until the passage of a constitutional amendment by the people of Nebraska. The advantage of advancing LB 849, along with LR 24, is if and when the people of the State of Nebraska do approve LR 24, if we put that on the ballot, as I hope we do, and the people do approve it, LB 849 gives them, number one, a look at exactly what we're talking about when we're talking about a state lottery. They aren't voting blind on a constitutional amendment that says we're going to establish a state lottery or the Legislature may establish a state lottery and they have no idea what's in it; they have no idea if it includes casino gambling, they have no idea if it includes video gambling. LB 849 spells out exactly the types of games that are going to be included in the lottery. It spells out exactly the types of restrictions that are going to be placed on those games. It sets up an administrative structure within the Department of Revenue. It sets up exhaustive security procedures, background checks for the individuals with whom the state would be contracting to make purchases to set up computer systems. It's a road map that tells exactly how the lottery would run. And it tells people this is what we're doing, when you're voting on a lottery you're voting for LB 849, you're voting for these exact things, the monies will be spent this way. This is the way...I think it's a responsible way to act with the people of the state, to pair