

May 7, 1991

LB 849  
LR 24

these two measures together, to pair LR 24, which would be the constitutional amendment, and LB 849 which would be the implementing language. That was what the discussion was like in the General Affairs Committee. That's what we decided was the most prudent way to go and this is an extremely prudent way to go. This is as cautious as you can be in the area of state lotteries, I believe, not only requiring a vote of the people before the lottery is implemented at all which, as we have discussed, is not actually necessary under the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, but also giving the people a look at exactly what they're voting on. I think that if you listen to your constituents out there, there's a lot of them that would be interested in playing a lottery. There's a lot that play lotteries in other states. That's one of the main reasons why we're talking about this here right now because this is money that we are losing, ladies and gentlemen. This is revenue that is not going to the State of Nebraska because all but one of the states around us has a state lottery and we don't. And we allow local lotteries. We're losing money to local lotteries because we've allowed, for some reason, our cities and counties out there to run lottery games while we, the state, have not taken advantage of the same opportunities. We have gaming going on in our society now in the form of local lotteries, in the form of horse racing, in the form of bingo games, in the form of pickle cards. This simply is saying, let's give the people of this state a chance, if they want to participate in this type of gaming, let's see if they want a state lottery that is structured specifically as we describe in LB 849. I would urge your vote to advance LB 849, along with the constitutional amendment that we advanced this morning so the people have a choice of looking at both. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. You've heard the closing on the advancement of LB 849. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the advancement of LB 849. Have you all voted? Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote.

SPEAKER BAACK: We have a request for a call of the house. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 24 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.