

issue. So with that, I'd ask that the body not advance the A bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Will, followed by Senator Schellpeper and Smith. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I rise to urge your support for the advancement of LB 849A. What LB 849A does is it appropriates \$2 million for the start-up costs for the lottery, in the event that the people of the State of Nebraska approve the lottery on the ballot in the General Election in 1992. And as Senator Moore indicated, it also provides that the seed money, which is what this General Fund appropriation is, the seed money is repaid by the proceeds of the lottery once the lottery starts bringing in money. Now I will be honest with you, does the status of LB 849 depend upon the advancement or the defeat of LB 849A, and in my view, it does not. We are in a situation where we can approve a lottery, we can put it before the people, they can adopt it, and we can come back, as Senator Moore indicated, and fund it at that point. But I think it is wiser to have language in there, especially now with the Warner amendment that says we don't appropriate the money unless the lottery is approved by the people, I think it is wiser to have that in place where we can begin to implement a lottery, begin to have that revenue coming in as quickly as possible after voter approval. Now I have done a little research into the start-up time and repayment costs of other states. I guess of the states that had lotteries in 1990, the average start-up time was 7-1/2 months, and the state was repaid in an average time of 5.3 months after that. So we are talking about about a year from the time, if we are an average state, about a year from the time that the lottery is implemented, the state will be paid back. It will be, for all intents and purposes, revenue neutral even though it will overlap a biennium. It will show up as an expenditure on the green sheet that is true, but it will be money that will be paid back immediately from the proceeds of the lottery, and I think we are being cautious enough in the way that we approach this by putting it on the ballot, by making sure that people know exactly what they are voting on, what type of lottery they will be adopting, that we ought to, at that point, at the point that the people do approve it after we have gone through the process that we have for having debated lottery for so many years, having been very careful with what we are presenting the people with, that at that point we ought to say, okay, Department of