

Senator Hall's amendment clarifies that not only is the state not going to have access to those machines for the time being but also local keno games should not be allowed to use machines of that type. I wholeheartedly support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. The next speaker is Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Thank you, Mr. President. Would Senator Hall yield to a question?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hall, would you respond, please.

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Yes, Senator Hall, I...I have an ongoing keno operation that's being run by the City of Ralston and I had some questions in regard to their current use of this type of equipment. Along those lines, has this amendment been reviewed by the Department of Revenue at all or was this something that was drafted by the committee, or...?

SENATOR HALL: No, Senator Abboud, this amendment was run by the Chairman of the General Affairs Committee. It was run by Senator Smith. It was run by the department in terms of Mr. Hirsch who heads up the Charitable Gaming Division. This one is one that says that if you don't want machines...and I was under the interpretation that the statutes and the policy decision made by the Legislature was that we don't have machines that then if the department felt that there was a way to have machines and allow them, administratively, I was opposed to that because I didn't want the department doing administratively what I couldn't get done statutorily for the state. What this would do is not allow those machines to be used in...that you saw in that test period in Ralston or LaVista. It does not impact the Ralston or LaVista games. As a matter of fact, I talked to at least one of the operators of one of those games about the five-minute limit and they felt that that was no burden whatsoever in terms of the continuous operation of the games. So...

SENATOR ABBOUD: Was this something that the Department of Revenue was going to be adopting, administratively, this particular amendment?