

bordering on Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota. And that's just two out of the group. The next group are, for instance, North Dakota, which is another state that borders on us which has restrictions, depends on the type of bingo license that's held; with a local permit there are no age restrictions. So that, right there, that information provided to me by the Department of Revenue clearly gives us the information that that was a misstatement and I don't think it was intentional because I...we all know Reverend Hamilton very well. He has appeared before the General Affairs Committee. Every time we have a hearing he testifies in good conscience on what his interests are. He is opposed to gambling and I...that's...I do not fault him for that. What I do fault him for is that on this occasion he did put out some misinformation. It's not true, other states are allowing this. Now let me just tell you that when Rex brought this bill to the General Affairs Committee he did not remove the requirement. He simply asked that they be allowed to play bingo with a special permit license during the fair in one of his counties, because they do do that there. They've been wanting to do that and the way he had the bill originally written was that they would also have allowed them to drink while they were doing this. The committee looked at this issue. We discussed it in detail and we decided to remove the...or prohibit, in other words, the ability for alcoholic beverages to be served and we would allow the children to be present then and play bingo with their parents. Rex's arguments, and I have a list of them here which I will go through, one of them was those kids are there at the fair right now. Is it worse for them to be with their parents than to be running around loose at the fair? One of the arguments Rex also made to us, among others, was what about a fair itself? We have the video arcades there, the pinball machines, and all those kinds of games for prizes that they put money on and take a chance on winning and they probably pay more than they pay for a bingo card to do that. Those are the things we all know, if we've been to a county fair, goes on, and we never think anything of it.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, I'm going to just run down a few of the other things here that you need to remember. First of all, and I'm going to put my light back on again because I need some more time, I will just tell you that in current statutes presently we