

gambling dollars but felt it was totally okay for the locals to do that, to use it for their revenue base, now what I'm doing is saying, since we're going to use them as a mule, let's pack them down a little more, so when they bring home the gold, we get a bigger share of it, because right now all we're getting is 2 percent that we tax them on. That basically covers our costs of regulation and oversight, doesn't even do anything more than that, doesn't raise any revenue for us. What we do here is say, fine, we have made the policy decision to have you be the gambling operations of the state. We don't have a state lottery, do we? Senator Will, am I mistaken or do we have a state lottery at present? Yes or no. Thank you. I didn't think so. And the fact of the matter is that we don't know if we're going to have a state lottery, ladies and gentlemen, we don't know because that has to come before a vote of the people and they have to vote it up or down. I heard, when I introduced my video lottery proposal to the committee, that the people had already voted on that. They had voted no, and that even though mine wasn't the same because it was...that wasn't really a real state lottery, it was good fodder to defeat the proposal and it was a very good proposal that dealt with raising revenue, dealt with dealing with the lottery on a Twenty-first Century approach instead of coming in 10 years behind the curve, which we're going to do. Frankly, that's what you're going to do and you're going to see locals oppose it and the local subdivisions of government are going to oppose it because you're going to cut into their revenue base that we've already given up. We've abdicated this to the locals and now we're saying, well, we...we don't want to give them the video lottery ability, video keno ability because we want to save that for the state. Well, that's nonsense. The state will...if we get into it about as quickly as we've gotten into the lottery, which we aren't in at present, about 20 years from now Senator Will will still be here, will be carrying this proposal in front of the body, and possibly by then we'll be around to looking at video lotteries because it has taken about that long to deal with the lottery issue before it has gotten to the point where it's at today on Select File in any form other than an amendment. We have chosen to let the locals raise their revenue. Let's let them do it in a fashion that's most effective and let's take a piece of the action. That's how gambling works, ladies and gentlemen. That's the only reason you gamble. There is no other reason for any subdivision of government to ever allow gambling. You raise revenue from it, even Las Vegas, which is a tourism Mecca and is out there in the middle of the desert, exists so they can raise