

of revenue, I'd love to have you join the committee. You would clearly bring some youth and beauty to it as well as a number of other things that I can't mention here, but the fact of the matter is, is that this is a tax proposal that the locals haven't had the option to deal with and, frankly, if you would talk to them, I didn't know the Revenue Department made tax policy. I thought that was something that came first to the Legislature in the form of a bill or an amendment, usually has a public hearing, and then is debated one way or another after input from the public and those affected. This hasn't had any of that and, frankly, it doesn't matter to me what the individual behind the glass comes back from the Department of Revenue and says. All I can tell you is that right now for the last fiscal year they turned back \$1.5 million. They lapsed that over into the General Fund. They don't need it for regulation and oversight, they're not using what we give them now, and if you remember, last year it was my amendment that when we increased the tax, we gave them a larger percentage, I think we jacked it up from 30 to 35 percent of the gross that went into the Charitable Fund that they could use for purposes of regulation and oversight. I'm not opposed to giving them the more money that they need to regulate, because when they regulate better, we receive more funds, more revenues raised. It only makes sense. They don't need this and this isn't the way you raise the money by bringing a doubling of the tax, and through the bill as it currently exists, a tripling of the tax, a 300 percent increase of the tax which is unfair especially when they had, the locals haven't had the option to address it. You're not going to hurt Omaha in effect, they're going to continue to operate. The people you're going to hurt are the little communities out there where 2 percent is a margin of whether or not it's a viable operation for them or not. That's exactly who you're going to hurt and this proposal as it relates to increasing taxes, you know, at the eleventh hour, makes... sounds great, but when you sit down and think about it, you talk to your local officials who have lotteries, they will be deathly opposed to it, deathly opposed to it as I am.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, I rise to agree with Senator Hall on this bill, on this amendment, this part of it at least. I oppose the Moore amendment for the reasons that Senator Hall stated plus the fact that I wanted to point out that the State of Nebraska tends to