

lottery proceeds could help repay depositors for not only Commonwealth, but all three industrial savings institutions that failed. So we did offer to have those in the form that was a merged amendment. Senator Hall offered that. That was objected to very strenuously, and so that was withdrawn and another amendment was offered by the members of the Lancaster County delegation and, again, we are grateful that it was adopted 26 to 6 last week. However, the Commonwealth depositors did talk to me, and I am sure other members of the delegation, upset because they felt that they still wanted to have one vote on the lottery that would include some lottery proceeds going to the depositors. We indicated to them that we had discussed that idea with members of the Legislature and that had found strong objection to the merger of the two issues into one, but not the objection to having the two separate issues allowed to be voted on. Nevertheless, the depositors insisted on further attempts to accomplish that goal, and so members of the Lincoln-Lancaster County delegation again are offering this proposal. This amendment would allow for one vote on the lottery issue that would include authorization for some of the lottery proceeds to be utilized by the Legislature to repay depositors in these institutions. I have talked to many of you on the floor about this issue. I understand the strong feeling and, in fact, the hostility that there is toward this proposal and revisiting the issue. I am very aware of that. Nevertheless, I do offer it at this time for your consideration and would appreciate your support for it.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Schmit, followed by Senator Smith, Will, Schellpeper and Chambers. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam President and members, I rise in support of the amendment and I had an amendment, which I will not need if this amendment is successful, but the amendment that I have offered would strike all references to the Commonwealth depositors. Unless you adopt the amendment offered by the Lincoln legislators, I would have to say that I think it is totally unfair that, in effect, we are using the Commonwealth depositors and their sympathizers to get a favorable vote on the lottery. Then we are asking a 1,600,000 people to turn right around and reimburse 12,000 Commonwealth depositors, Commonwealth, State Securities, and American Savings depositors. I think we all know the mathematics of that. That is totally unfair. Either tie the issue together as proposed by the