

June 5, 1991

LB 355

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amusing to me that on this floor two days ago I was vigorously chastised, I was criticized, and Mr. Hirsch said he could not possibly print or contract for the printing of pickle tickets and their distributions. But I want to call your attention to the language, subsection (3). It says, "The Legislature may establish a lottery to be operated and regulated", to be operated and regulated, "by the State of Nebraska." It doesn't say they can contract with old Schmit or Warner or Labeledz or anyone else to operate it, it says the state shall operate. New language, ladies and gentlemen. So if the people approve this, we had better find some system, Senator Smith, whereby we can do far more than print pickle tickets because we are going to be in the lottery business. If we decide to run video machines, we are going to have to go out and pick up a hundred or a thousand or ten thousand of those machines. If we decide to encroach upon the cities on the keno, we are going to have to do that. We are going to have to employ people. We are going to have to find a bunch of experts. Maybe there will be a job for some of my friends. Kind of interesting. The language has been debated. The language of the bill has been kicked around. The experts have looked at it. I doubt that anyone really read the language the way I read it. There may be those that disagree with me, but unless I am badly mistaken, and I do not think I am, if the amendment passes as has been...as it is written, and the people approve it, then the state may not contract with Mr. XYZ or ABC Company, the state must operate, and that will be a new experience, ladies and gentlemen, for the State of Nebraska. The state has been criticized roundly, soundly, and with some degree of...with some authenticity for encouraging certain types of gambling. In this case, ladies and gentlemen, the state is going to be operating lotteries. Didn't want to operate a railroad, Senator Lamb, didn't want to do some other things; operating a railroad is immoral, unethical, unprincipled, not a public purpose, but we are going to be operating a lottery. Ladies and gentlemen, when the other shoe drops, remember that you heard it first on the floor here. Mr. President, Madam President, excuse me, I ask permission to withdraw on my motion.

PRESIDENT MOUL: If there are no objections, the motion is withdrawn. Proceed with LB 355.

CLERK: (Read LB 355 on Final Reading.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: All provisions of law relative to procedure