

grant in a situation, I didn't mean really to open up in what would be...what would be advisable or not advisable. The point was that the City of Hastings felt that their hands were tied and they could not respond without some clarification. And so what they were asking is for clear direction and clarification, you know, without any judgment on what's right or wrong or where it should be placed or where it should not be placed, and I didn't mean to get into any kind of a discussion on that point, but simply directing and focusing on the point that the municipalities need to have clear direction as to what direction they may or may not take. Thank you.

PRÉSIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bohlke and Robak. Senator Abboud, followed by Senators Cudaback and Nelson. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Madam President, colleagues, I'm trying to figure out where this would be in the Constitution and from what the legislative resolution states it would be under the Article XV, Subsection 19. It would be by itself under the miscellaneous provisions of the Nebraska Constitution. And if you...and I'm just assuming what the court would do in interpreting the language of this constitutional amendment. But since it's out by itself and it's not integrated into the laws dealing with liquor, I would assume that they would read the constitutional amendment as it is stated. And it states that the municipalities, as well as counties, shall have the...shall be empowered to prove or deny retail and bottle club liquor licenses within their jurisdiction. And if that...I assume that is what it provides for solely. So if the Legislature enacted this particular piece of legislation, if the constitutional amendment is passed, then they would give them sole authority over denial or approval of liquor licenses. And if that is not the intent of the introducer of the bill, then maybe it should state clearly in the Constitution that that is not their intent because, from what I read in and how it would be placed in the Constitution, it will be placed by itself and the interpretation of that constitutional amendment will be as it is written and as we are debating this issue before us. And with my remaining time I would like...if Senator Schellpeper would like to respond to that assertion, I would be happy to give him the remainder of my time.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: We weren't listening to you, Chris. I hate to say that. But would you repeat what you wanted us to