

and say that this is something that belongs in the Constitution is exactly why you run into problems down the road in terms of having laws that don't jibe with your Constitution. The next time somebody comes in and files a lawsuit because a municipality has unfairly taken away their liquor license in their regard, are you going to take that phone call...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...when you voted to put this thing on the ballot and the folks of the state say, the way it is drafted, sure we ought to do this. They tend to vote yes on virtually every constitutional amendment that is before them except for taxes. They are going to call you and say, why did you vote for that constitutional amendment that, basically, gives the League of Municipalities immunity from any action with regard to a liquor license? And a liquor license doesn't necessarily have a bad connotation, in my opinion. There are a number of restaurants, taverns, other places that folks tend to gather, especially in the smaller communities, because those are the kinds of communities we are talking about here. They are the ones that are going to be dramatically affected by this. I would urge you to not put this issue in the Constitution, let alone put it before the voters.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Before we continue with debate, I would like to direct the senators' attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Robinson and the Lieutenant Governor are 30 seniors from Oakland-Craig High School, my alma mater. Would you please rise and be recognized? Welcome to the Chambers today. Thank you. I will now recognize Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senators Schmit, Cudaback, and Elmer. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President and members. I think that Senator Kristensen really explained the problem we are having here very well. He went through the history of it. He explained what brought it about. I think that explained it very well. And, Senator Hall, the problem arises because there is a body of law that says that the Legislature cannot delegate this authority with liquor bills. We have twice passed laws that said that we give the local cities and counties that authority, and twice the courts have said that we don't have that authority. Now if we are going to leave it the way that it is, then we have to go back and we have to rewrite all of our