

or future rule, resolution or ordinance of a local unit of government. And in arguing for...in discussing this amendment with me Senator Hall's thinking is that we should either have the principle of local control or we should not. And, essentially, the way that LB 130 is currently structured is half local control. It says we have a state standard, we have a current state standard that is spelled out in the provisions of LB 130 regarding the placement of vending machines or making it a state policy decision at this point that liquor licensee's can have vending machines that, with the amendment we just adopted, they have to be in a particular room. Then, after all the state standards are spelled out, we come along and say, but if a local subdivision wants to have more stringent standards, then that's okay. We don't say they can have less stringent standards as well, only if they want to have more stringent standards then that's okay. What the Hall amendment would say is either let's have it both ways or let's have a statewide policy that a licensee knows applies, that any individual that's wanting to purchase cigarettes knows applies, that anyone involved in the industry...that a vendor knows what applies as he is going from town to town placing his machines, that simply we have a statewide policy in effect, the stated policy being that we want to put these machines in positions where minors have not...do not have access to them as much as possible, while retaining the ability of the vendor to place the machines. Essentially, what this ordinance or what this bill, as written, would say is that the City of Omaha could have one standard that's more stringent than the state standard, that Ralston which has contiguous borders with the City of Omaha could simply adhere to the state standard without any local involvement at all. That would make a very unwieldy situation for a vendor wanting to go out and place things, for a licensee, for an individual that may own establishments in different areas around the same metro area, for example. And the Hall amendment would simply say, let's have a single standard that we're applying statewide. If this is going to be the stated policy of the State of Nebraska, that these are the conditions under which a vending machine could be placed, then let's make sure that that standard is applied across the state so we have knowledge of what the law is and not allow local control that goes only half way, not allow local control that enables more stringent standards but not less stringent. If we're going to have local control, let's give it to the local subdivisions, otherwise let's make sure that we have a single state standard. I would urge your support for the Hall amendment.