

believe was the intent, and maybe other committee members will join me in this effort, but I believe it was the primary concern of the committee was that really all we were doing was moving the costs around, and actually probably increasing the cost to the taxpayers of Nebraska eventually by this particular move. The Athletic Commission, for many years, or for all of the years in existence, has always been a Cash Fund...cash funded agency. And because of some of the downturn in the...in the...in the take, if you will, or the percentage of take that is sent to cash fund the Athletic Commission has fallen on times where they weren't able to maintain their activities which run in the 25 to 30 thousand dollar range through the cash funding that they had experienced in the past. Much of the testimony that came to us focused on the fact that at one time they were very lucrative and were actually a moneymaker. And in the late seventies, early eighties, I believe, was the time period they literally lapsed over \$150,000 back to the state because of the excess funds in their Cash Fund. Now when they're in a downturn they didn't feel that it was appropriate that that money would not be...or they would not be supported with General Fund monies now to weather them through a downturn. Where the expenses that came about was their concern for the health and safety of the boxers and the professional and amateur boxers, and wrestling as it's conducted in the state, and that these standards are necessary. And by simply putting them down to the local level, the costs are going to be...still going to be there, they're just going to be absorbed at the local level. And if each community must administer these, in the long haul we would probably actually be spending a great deal more of the taxpayers dollars rather than having a central administration with the efficient oversight that's being provided, and no one questioned the excellent job the Athletic Commission has done. It was simply this cash funding twist. So the amendment you see on your desk is simply the technical adjustment that would be necessary to put them back in the appropriations bill, as per their normal expenditure situation would be. And you can see that we strike the various zeros and insert the \$25,000. To put them into the next go-round, we're talking about 21,000, or excuse me, 2,185, and then we also have to insert 27,185. So the actual request going into the next...the next fiscal period, they're funded for this go-round, but the next fiscal period, for the biennium, would take \$27,185 to appropriate the funds necessary to keep the Athletic Commission on board. And so that is the amendment, and I offer it to the body and hope that you will approve it.