

Commission with...start doing it with General Funds, we ought to make a decision, as I said yesterday, the only way to keep a General Fund appropriation from growing is to keep it from starting. And since this now is decision time and before we move forward in continuing to General Fund this operation, we need to make a decision on whether or not it's actually needed in the State of Nebraska. That is no reflection on the very fine job the Athletic Commission has done in this state to date, but it's simply unfortunate because the demand for their duties have decreased in the State of Nebraska. It does not make a whole lot of sense to appropriate General Fund dollars to sustain them. You will recall that a bill was introduced. The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee indefinitely postponed the bill. Yesterday, Senator Conway, as Chairman of that committee, filed an amendment that I think was a reasonable effort if you're not going to...if you're going to kill the bill, you do need to put money in for the Athletic Commission for the second year of the biennium, that was a \$25,000 amendment which failed, it only got 14 votes. I guess if you chose not to do that and fund the Athletic Commission, the other option is to do this, that is to do away with the Athletic Commission as a state agency. Many states have totally done away with the Athletic Commission. Actually, the bill, 1294, in its present form, would maintain some state uniformity from community to community but instead of the state being the enforcement agency and the State Athletic Commission being the enforcement agency these duties and enforcement mechanisms will be passed on to local governments, such local governments could continue to charge a gate fee and, hopefully, pay off any costs they have on a local level by an administrative fee and since they would not have full-time people doing this, arguably the cost may, indeed, be minimal and they could recover all their costs with the gate fee and possibly we may not need to use any taxpayer dollars. That's a decision they can make on the local level. There's been a great deal of concern about if there's no longer state Athletic Commission who would sanction these events, obviously, many of these events, such as Golden Gloves, are sanctioned by the Golden Gloves Association, or, I don't know if association is the property terminology there. It's actually the national association that's sanctioning those type of things. The biggest question would be in the area of professional boxing and that would, indeed, be a situation that until, you know, Kansas, what happened there when they followed through it this way, they have laws very similar to ours, local governments enforce the state statutes, but as far as