

that this bill be pulled from the committee and since it was killed by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee this will take 30 votes to pull this bill from the committee. And if you're not willing to do this, then we probably need to go back to Senator Conway's amendment and fund the agency. Obviously, it's the committee's...the Appropriations Committee opinion that it no longer can sustain itself and for that reason we should not be appropriating General Funds to the agency, and if it cannot sustain itself, it is time to do away with the Athletic Commission, unfortunately. So, with that, I would ask for adoption of the motion to place LB 1294 on General File.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise in opposition to this motion and applaud the Government Committee's decision to kill the bill. The committee did hear the testimony. I think that we have to recognize that the way we handle issues in this body, the committee had the benefit of the citizenry which came out, I think, it's strongly against eliminating this commission and I think gave good arguments. Senator Conway can go into that. But I want to rise in objection to the action of pulling this bill out of committee, considering particularly that we just introduced this bill on March 6th. Less than two weeks ago we suspended the rules midway through or passed the midway point in this session to especially introduce this bill. We had the hearing. We suspended the rules so the hearing could be held less than seven days later on March 12th, and the committee and, despite that short attention span the public had to respond to this, there was overwhelming opposition to this proposal. The committee killed the bill overwhelmingly and now here we are again trying to discuss a \$28,000 proposal which, in the scheme of things, I don't think is that significant and an attempt, I think, to bypass the public will, at least at this point, on the issue. I...there's a lot of reasons why we ought to oppose this, besides just the...I think recognition of the public that are knowledge on this issue on their position. In addition, the whole \$28,000 problem that we have wouldn't be a problem if some years ago we hadn't taken away from the Athletic Commission over \$100,000 in their Cash Fund. They had built up and saved and put that money aside and then in the hard times we had we took it away from them. And if we hadn't done that, they would be sitting, I think, on top of some money right now and not having to come back to us for this General Fund appropriation. In