

technical and it's their annual clean-up bill from the Gaming Division, so it's...I would move for the advancement of LB 344.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. You've heard the opening. Senator Withem, on the discussion of the advancement to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes. Could you tell me how much more time remains on this bill?

SENATOR HALL: There is approximately ten minutes and ten seconds.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, great. So I don't want to start asking questions and then realize the time goes up. I have this pesky institutional sort of side to me that's kind of risen here a couple of times in the last week and it's roused again by this Gaming Commission, because I can remember when there were individuals in this Legislature that thought the creation of a Gaming Commission was a great idea; vaguely remember our passing it. Does the committee feel that it is not a good idea to have a Gaming Commission? And is that why it's being repealed? Or are you simply saying, well, they didn't get around to appointing one like the law said so we'll just repeal it?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Well, yes, Senator, it's probably a little bit of both. It hasn't been appointed so the committee thought, well, if it hasn't been appointed, they're not using it, why have it.

SPEAKER WITHEM: But did the committee think that maybe part of our obligation as a Legislature is to oversee agencies and put the pressure on them to make sure they follow laws rather than simply ignore them?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: We did discuss that with the revenue people and they said, well, it was never appointed, it isn't needed, it's an extra expense but it's something that...

SPEAKER WITHEM: So the precedent is from now if the Legislature passes a bill requiring the appointment of a statutory created body, it's up to the department whether they want to do that or not?