

consideration from the day it was introduced. The way it would envision it, the way I envision it is that rather than take away that ability, they would have the similar ability in terms of if we went to a video lottery, they would have the ability to place or get a portion of one of those machines or revenue off one of those machines, so actually rather than have it diminished, it would probably be enhanced because the amount of money that they would generate, if they were able to place a machine or get a portion of a machine similar to the locations that they have for their pickle cards, the revenue would actually probably go up, not be cut.

SENATOR WITEK: Even if you dilute the pool of opportunity for gambling?

SENATOR HALL: Well I would argue that you don't dilute the pool, that basically, there clearly are only so many dollars out there that can be used for this type of operation, but we've seen that with the expansion of gambling in the Council Bluffs area, there hasn't been the marked drop, there has been a drop and there will probably be more of a drop, but what you're going to do is see people switch from the use of pickle cards in the example that you give with regard to the volunteer fire folks, to the use of the video lotteries and the slot machines. And they will derive a benefit from that because they will be able to have the ability to go to the bars that they do now when they place their pickle cards and ask those bar owners to set aside a portion of one of those machines that would be designated for charities for the volunteer fire departments. So they are protected, I believe, in the proposal and I would not want to pass anything that would leave the charities on the outside looking in.

SENATOR WITEK: Is that a local decision then to decide how much of the...

SENATOR HALL: No, the decision with regard to the...well it's a local decision in that the decision...there is one machine that is designated for charities and the bar owner would divide that up just like he does pickle cards. If he says, look, I'll sell pickle cards for these two charities, for this school and for this little league. Then it would be divided in half. If he said I'm going to divide the machine up four ways, I'm going to divide it up for the school, the little league, the firemen and the not-for-profit down the street, whoever that might be. He