

amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Okay.

CLERK: Okay?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: That's the one to take up first.

CLERK: And that's the first one I have, so 2735 is what I have in front of me right now, Senator. (See page 336 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, Senator Schellpeper is now offering an amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Schellpeper, you are recognized to open on this particular amendment.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Amendment 2735 is an amendment that would set up a Gaming Commission, similar to what they have in every state that has expanded gaming. If you look, what has happened in Iowa, they have a five-member commission. We basically follow what happens over in Iowa. It would be a commission appointed by the Governor. Their compensation will be fixed by the Legislature, and they shall have duties only as directed by this body. They would be in charge of all expanded gaming, basically casino gaming. We're not attempting to get...to take care of the lottery, that's currently in the Revenue Department, or the keno operations that are run by each one of our individual cities. What we're saying is that we would like to see a Gaming Commission be available. And as part of this constitutional amendment that would be there to make sure that the political aspect of gaming is not involved. We want to have, if we are going to expand, we want to have a Gaming Commission there to make sure that the casino operations are run the way that they should be run. The terms of office would be staggered. You'd have two members appointed for initial six-year terms, two members appointed for four-year terms, and one for a two-year term. After the terms of the office, initial terms, all appointments will be on a six-year term. They would be appointed by the Governor from districts of substantially equal population, established by this Legislature. They could be removed for any cause. They would have power to regulate gaming in a manner which maintains the integrity and honesty, it prevents illegal activity, maintains public confidence and