

repeals Section 9-237, which would require all the information filed with the department to be filed with the county clerk. This came about because of some of the concern that the local groups have with the high bingo tax compared to some of the other tax on gambling, and this would change the bingo tax mainly, in fact, that's all that it does now. It would save money for some of the local groups. I will let Senator Will explain all of the benefits. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you. At this point I think I'll hold off on all of the benefits until I introduce the bill, but I'm sorely tempted to oppose the committee amendments just because of the lobbying that has occurred against this bill. But the fact is that they do preserve the intent of the bill, and that is to reduce the bingo tax on charities. For that reason I...the committee amendments simply, in reality, get the bill in the shape that I would like to consider it. So I would ask for your adoption.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I oppose the reduction of the bingo tax whether it's to the state or whether it's to the locals. We are going to have revenue problems enough that we don't have to cut our revenue sources for the whole venture of property tax relief or for the abilities of cities to raise sufficient monies. Whether it's the state take or the city take, neither of them should be reduced. We've had cuts in these tax levies in the past, and those have been quite sufficient, it seems to me. There are costs involved, social costs involved, police costs that are involved, and it seems to me that it's reasonable to have a take on the action that allows us to redistribute to greater social needs than the playing of bingo and I oppose the reduction of the taxes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schellpeper, there are no further lights on on the committee amendments, you are recognized to close.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Mr. Speaker and members, as I said in my opening, the main thrust of the committee amendments is just