

April 2, 1996

LB 1277

SENATOR HARTNETT: I don't know. I think it's...I think our rules and regulations in the gaming permits...permits the children from gambling, gaming, in the gaming activity or gambling activity, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are children allowed to participate in communion where wine is served?

SENATOR HARTNETT: I believe so.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, isn't this gambling a religious activity?

SENATOR HARTNETT: It's a way that charitable organizations, churches use to raise money for their activities.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What right does the state have to prevent children from participating in this religious activity, when they don't have the right to prevent children from participating in the communion, which involves drinking liquor away from home?

SENATOR HARTNETT: I think that the state has made that decision, or we've made that decision through policies and through rules and regulations.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think that this gambling is a part of religious activity?

SENATOR HARTNETT: No, I think it's a way for fund-raising activity of churches, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think it's wise for churches to engage in activities, which are considered so harmful to children that the children cannot participate?

SENATOR HARTNETT: That, the churches have made that decision to participate in it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I am asking for your opinion.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Well, that's...they've made the dec...I think it's all right, yes.