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only for items which are unique to the operation of the state lottery; this includes items such as printing lottery tickets, security services, consulting services, or any goods or services involving the determination of the lottery winners. LB 479 would also authorize the tax commissioner to enter into agreements with other government authorized lotteries to make purchases of goods or services that are consistent with the state Lottery Act. Nebraska is a participant in the multistate lottery, Powerball Lottery, and this would authorized purchase of goods and services that are related to this activity. The background checks related to major procurements would only apply to the Nebraska portion of the purchase. LB 479 is essentially the same as LB 1044, that we had last year. We didn't get it out of the committee, it wasn't heard until late, and it wasn't heard last session. There's no opposition to the bill. One of the examples, I guess I'd like to explain a little bit, currently the Lottery Division has leased a van to transport merchandise for these promotional events. They used a two year lease to keep the cost under \$15,000, so they wouldn't have to do a background check on the car dealer. A three year lease would have been...had saved some money, but it would have pushed the cost over \$15,000, and it would have required a background check. The lottery also buys items, such as furniture and equipment, which could be obtained more effectively if they didn't have to do a background check on the vendors. But it would permit the lottery to lease or buy a van or equipment for this over \$15,000. But it was basically improve the competitive bidding process of the Lottery Division. But when they're dealing with multi.tate agreements, it would also allow them to purchase products related to the Powerball as part of this multistate agreement. So it's a bill that's designed to let them operate more efficiently, and not to go into the background check of the vendors if it's over \$15,000. Be glad to answer any questions. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. We are now open for discussion on LB 479. Senator Chambers, you are recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Schellpeper, I tried to follow what you were saying, but I have no idea what this bill is about. But you know my