

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 13, 2005 LB 480

establishment is they have to have a nonsmoking area.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Right.

SENATOR THOMPSON: So that's the current law that they're under.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Right.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Under the law with this amendment, if they wanted to not have to go smoke-free, that would...I'm trying to accommodate you, Senator Synowiecki. This is what you had mentioned earlier and, quite frankly, that's the reason I put this in the bill.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Smith spoke of perhaps this amendment transforming the environment of current bar/restaurant type atmosphere, so that they implement keno so that they allow their patrons to continue to smoke in their establishments, and that this might serve as an incentive to install keno. Now, my earlier amendment had pickle cards as a mechanism to be exempt. Isn't that right?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: And isn't the sale of pickle cards a less conspicuous gambling environment than a keno operation and that? If you have keno, you have to have the TV screens. You've got cards on all the tables and little crayons that you mark your numbers on and all these sorts of paraphernalia associated with keno. But that degree of paraphernalia, gambling paraphernalia, is not associated with pickle cards, isn't it? Isn't it a less conspicuous...

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes, but it's less expansive. This is a narrower, smaller group of people. Pickle cards, I think, set itself up for all sorts of shenanigans to be able to continue to have smoking in restaurants, so this is narrower. It allows some accommodation and it was...I did this for you.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Relative to uniformity, not all municipalities and counties of the state of Nebraska offer keno