

February 28, 1984

LB 744

Miscellaneous Subjects Committee that voted against the advancement of LB 744 to the floor of the Legislature. I think that I should explain very quickly my view on this. I will support Senator Higgins' kill motion. My view is a very simple one. It is an historic point of view. Two hundred years ago there were a band of men and women in England who were upset by the industrial revolution in England and they went into mills and factories and they hammered apart the machines in those factories because those machines represented a positive evil to them. Those man and women have been known to us today as "Luddites", L-u-d-d-i-t-e-s. They were known as the Luddites. What you really have in this state today is we have lawful gambling activities, we have lawful slot machine activities today conducted through pickle cards, and this is not conducted through machines but conducted through pickle cards, and very simply, very simply, this piece of legislation is equivalent to the old Luddite movement of destroying the machines, of destroying the machines. I think that we will find ourselves, as Senator DeCamp points out, in the situation of Tennessee, of Tennessee, if we disallow the machines because we will have continued to allow...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...amusement devices which can be used exactly like they are now being used in Tennessee to conduct illegal lotteries. I think that is a mistake. I yield the rest of my time to Senator Higgins.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, in the three years I have been down here, I have never made a motion to kill another Senator's bill and I hope I never have to. I, therefore, after having had the opportunity to speak once and for all on this will withdraw that motion because I really don't like to make that type of a motion on any Senator's bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The motion is withdrawn and the time has run out. Mr. Clerk.