

throughout the whole state because I have received considerable correspondence from other counties and other cities. What LB 486 does, it would allow...licensed nonprofit organizations presently are required to return at least 65 percent of their gross proceeds from the sale of lottery or raffle tickets. They are also prohibited from letting their members under the age of 18 help sell raffle and lottery tickets. And I know in the City of Omaha and I am sure throughout the state many times you answer the doorbell and there is a young person there either selling raffle tickets on an afghan or Girl Scout or Boy Scout cookies, or whatever, and they are certainly under the age of 18. Most of them are entering a contest for their school. Who can sell the most tickets get a field trip. And as I said in committee, they are usually given a field trip as a prize and possibly come down to Lincoln to watch the Legislature. Senator Higgins mentioned, she said, is that a prize? I says, well, that is for the one that sells the least. It is the booby prize. But LB 486 would grant once a year a three-month permit to license these nonprofit organizations to retain a larger percentage of their receipts and allow persons under the age of 18 to help in the sale and distribution of these tickets. I can recall when our church who uses the funds for tuition for those that are unable to pay tuition to attend our elementary school, last year we had a festival and the greatest amount of profit is received from the raffle. But last year as they went to raffle off the prizes, which I think the first prize was \$1,000; the second prize, \$500, and there was about two \$250 and about five \$100 prizes, at the end of raffling off what was printed on the ticket, they had to stand up there and raffle off seven more \$250 prizes in order to come under the 65 percent and be legal. And this has taken money away from the school, away from the organization that pays the tuition for these children to attend school without paying tuition and to buy books and so forth for their library. Others discontinued the raffle entirely. Mt. Michael, I know, rather than have their yearly raffle which they have done for forty or fifty years, had to discontinue their raffle. Instead, to those of us that on their mailing list, sent out a letter explaining because of the Legislature passing that bill, they were not able to have that raffle because of the printing of the tickets, the postage and whatever, because they send their tickets across the county line, they send it throughout Nebraska. It just wasn't worth it because the profit wasn't