

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

March 6, 1997

LB 317

like that. The bill is almost revenue neutral. We really change this bill. We go to a...currently on July 1st is when the new license fees are always due, so this bill starting on July 1, '98 until December 31st, '99, we are going to go to an 18-month period to get it on the yearly basis, and the reason for that is because several of the operators that come in, like carnivals, fairs, in the summertime, when they come in in June, they have to buy this fee for their machines, and then if they stay after the first of July, they have to buy one more for the next year, and so this will get it on a yearly basis. So if they come in, it's a lot more fair. In the Revenue Committee, there was some opposition from the larger operators. We were able to work that out, so in its current form, if you have fewer than ten machines, it's going to cost you less money, and then starting in the year 2000, if you have more than 25, I think it is, then you'll start paying more, but it's the lower operators will be paying less, but the larger operators, there hasn't been an increase since 1984, I think it is, so this is something that needed to happen so we get it more equal and more fair to the smaller operator. On the committee amendments excludes pickle card dispensing devices from the definition. They change, like I said, the period of time covered by this. They provide for a \$250 licensing fee for applicants operating ten or more machines, which will cover the period from July through December, and then beginning in the year 2000, there is no more fee. We change to an...the occupation tax to \$50 for the 18-month period from July to December, and then if the machine is placed in operation after April 1, there is a \$35 annual fee beginning January 1, the year 2000, and it would cost \$20 if it is placed in operation after the first of July. But the committee amendments are the bill. We just changed the way that we tax a little bit these machines so that we get it more fair to help these small operators. It seems like there is getting to be a lot more operators and larger operators, but revenue, actually it's revenue neutral, but it is a more fair fee. Be glad to answer any questions.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. I understand we have an amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, I do. Senator Schellpeper would move to amend the committee amendments. That is found on