

conducted per week in the professional operation, the economics still exist to allow the professional operation to continue and professional operations have really resulted in Omaha and Lincoln in the development of casino type gambling and they really have taken the lid off of a fairly controlled gambling operation that we have in this state, bingo operations, and that is why it is very important for us today to reject the committee amendment and to allow only two bingo occasions per week to be conducted in any structure or premise. That is what my amendment would do. It is also very important that we not allow custodial help to be compensated. The bingo that you and I know, that which is being conducted in the American Legion Post and VFW Clubs and the Elks Lodge and the churches is being conducted by volunteer workers who do the custodial work at no cost. It is only through the custodial worker in the professional operation that compensation is being paid, in effect obviating or getting around or circumventing the situation that bingo essentially should be run by volunteers with all the dollars in bingo going to the nonprofit organizations and none of the dollars in bingo going to the professionals. Therefore, it is very important that we do reject the committee amendment allowing custodial workers to be compensated. I would certainly urge your support on this matter. Now I think that there are other persons who wish to speak to this issue, Mr. Speaker. I know Senator Fitzgerald mentioned to me he would like to go next. I don't know if he is on your order or not.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator, I have got about six lights on here. I want to find out whether you want to speak to the committee amendment, I am sorry, to the Johnson amendment to the committee amendment. Senator Keyes, do you wish to speak to the Johnson amendment? That is what is before us now.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker, and it bothers me a little bit to refute some of the statements that my good friend, Vard Johnson, has made but I had an amendment up there that was going to bring it to four occasions a week and let me tell you why I thought that four occasions a week, and I will buy three, is one of the things that needs to be done. The bingo games in Omaha that are run by the big charitable organizations can offer prizes that far exceed what a small group like the Legion in Springfield, like the Croatian Church in Omaha, like a lot of other small organizations that are permitted to operate bingo and because of the fact that these big organizations and they can operate and they can pay twice, three times as much money out in daily prizes as the others can, so all I say is bring it down to three occasions a week and I will support it. Four