

March 21, 1979

LB 164

to the bill as a whole.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, I just want to make a couple remarks on Senator Keyes' amendment. I think this has been one of the fairly hotly debated provisions of any bingo law change and that is, what are the ceilings on prizes and total payouts and last year the Legislature did establish \$3,500 was to be the ceiling on total payouts for one bingo occasion and \$1,000 was the ceiling on a single bingo game. Now, in fact, it is probably only the larger games that can make those kinds of payouts because they have the larger audiences, the larger number of participants so that they can afford to make those kinds of payouts. We have had, however, operating in the City of Omaha for years and years and years very small bingo games that essentially draw people from the neighborhood and the prizes are nothing like these kinds of prizes and yet people do go to those small games and there is not any problem with that, but by allowing the larger prizes, that at least provides some reward to those operators that are operating in a somewhat larger facility, such as a church basement or a school gymnasium or a major lodge hall or what have you and the problem with our present bingo law does not lie with the amount of the prize money that can be paid out but instead lies with the number of games that can be conducted per week. I would urge this body to reject the Keyes amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is on the Keyes amendment to the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. You are voting on the Keyes amendment to LB 164. Have you all voted? Clerk, record the vote.

CLERK: 3 ayes, 23 nays on the motion to adopt, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion lost and the bill is rejected. Are we ready to go to the bill as a whole? Senator Fitzgerald, do you want to talk to...I am sorry. We have got some other amendments, I apologize. Go ahead, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Dworak now moves to amend and his amendments are on page 972 of the Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: What is it?

CLERK: Senator Dworak's amendment is on page 972.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak, the Chair recognizes you.

SENATOR DWORAK: 922 on the Journal?