

March 21, 1979

LB 164

town greater than 500 people, there is not a town that has two churches or a Legion hall and a church that doesn't have two locations for a bingo site. If that is so, they cannot exercise the local option under Senator Johnson's language. All it takes before the city has no alternative is for there to be two potential structures for bingo locations. There is no local option I would argue for any town greater than 400 or 500 people or any town that has two churches or any town that has two public access facilities. If that is the case, I think the language is too broad. There is not enough flexibility and we need to allow our local decision makers greater authority than what LB 164 does. Regardless of how the vote on this amendment comes out, I will be in support of LB 164. However, I think it is only fair to grant a local option that is meaningful. This local option is a charade. Now if the Legislature wishes not to create a local option, I can abide by that and I will continue to support the bill but I do not want this body to act under the assumption that the local decision makers have some flexibility when, in fact, they do not. The purpose of my amendment is to bring that to the attention of the body and allow for us to consider the values implicit in the local control issue involved in this particular set of language. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Let's see, we are on the Landis amendment and we are pushing for time. Senator Keyes, did you want to speak to the Landis amendment?

SENATOR KEYES: I want to ask Senator Landis just one very quick question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Landis, under the local option then, if we have a bingo game that is being conducted in Springfield in the Legion Hall twice a week, will this allow that same license to operate in the community building twice in the same week also?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes, I think you could have two different sites (interruption) to operate.

SENATOR KEYES: And two occasions in each one.

SENATOR LANDIS: What I am saying is that in the event there was only one hall that was being used but they wanted to use it three or four times, the city council could not allow that to happen if there was another church basement