

March 21, 1979

LB 164

or a Legion Hall or the like, that they would have to then move that second and third time to another site and they could not exercise the option of granting more than two times per week in that first location.

SENATOR KEYES: In other words, if there were three locations in Springfield to conduct bingo, my Legion could conduct two games of bingo in each one of those locations each week, that is they could conduct six bingo occasions in Springfield, two in each one of the available facilities, am I right? If that is part of the law, Senator Johnson, then we had better change that part of it fast and I don't know but you gave me the thought, Senator Landis, and thanks for the thought.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, just a couple of comments on the Landis amendment. In the first place, Senator Keyes, the American Legion Post in Springfield can conduct no more than ten games for its license per month. Now I don't care if it conducts those games in ten different facilities if it wants to but that is the maximum it can conduct, ten games a month. That is the existing law and that is what the law will be with LB 164 as passed so you don't have to worry about your particular problem. There is no inherent defect in the law in that area. Now with respect to Senator Landis' amendment, one of the arguments that was made last year for allowing one premise to hold any number of games is that in rural Nebraska there might only be one facility suitable and there might be three or four organizations that really wanted to conduct bingo. So given that argument, now in fact I have researched all of the licenses in rural Nebraska and at this time there are only one or two towns in rural Nebraska where there is more than one charity conducting a bingo in one facility, but even then, they are only conducting two games a week so there is no problem right now in rural Nebraska. But I decided it would be wise to put in the local option so that those towns that only had one facility that was suitable for bingo and available, and available means you can rent it, you can rent it, that if they only had one such facility they could go to their city council or their village clerk or the county board, as the case may be, and get the local option permission to conduct three games a week or four games a week in that facility. Now every licensee can only conduct ten games a month. That is all there is to it. So they can't exceed the number of games per month they can conduct but they could at least use that facility more than three times or four times a week. Now if, in fact, this body