

April 13, 1982

LB 602A, 924

this limitation on the use of the proceeds serves to protect the public on the one hand, it also places a serious restriction on the activities of the many small, legitimate public spirited organizations. These groups often get part or all of their prizes donated from the local businesses so that most of the money that they raise for the worthy causes they are supporting rather than for the purchase of the prizes to be awarded. Since these groups are not using 65% of the gross proceeds their fund raisers for awarding the prizes, these activities are illegal under the present law. I introduced LB 841 to attempt to solve this problem. The amendment I am proposing to LB 602A would make an important change in the statute authorizing raffles and lotteries for nonprofit organizations and represents the form of LB 841 that was advanced to the floor by the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. My amendment would simply exempt lotteries whose gross proceeds are less than \$2,000 from the requirement that 65% of the gross proceeds be used for awarding prizes. This would allow the small local lotteries to continue to accept donated prizes while maintaining more strict requirements on larger lotteries and raffles. This is an important change as there are a number of organizations across the state ranging from the Velvet Spurs Riding Club in North Platte to Optimists clubs and other service organizations which depends upon raffles and lotteries to fund their activities. I appreciate your support for this amendment to LB 602A.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol. I think Senator Haberman first.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. Chairman, 602 is the public health priority, Public Health and Welfare to require the Department of Public Health and Welfare to furnish medical services. I'd like to ask the germaneness of this to 602.

SENATOR CLARK: This is 602A. This bill was gutted the other day by Bernice Labeledz. If you want to ask the germaneness of it though, that bill deals with bingo in chapter 9 while he is going to the criminal statute to 28 and I would rule it not germane. If he would like to challenge that, that is up to him. We will go to 924. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, I would move to recess until such time as the E & R amendments are prepared for their reading into the record at which time I would then follow with a motion to adjourn.

SENATOR CLARK: This is a nondebatable motion. The Speaker could address it if he would like.