

locking people up. Now that you have legalized a business, what is the next smart thing to do? Tax it. If you need to change the bill and pretend it is still illegal, fine, but I think you should do one thing, you should raise some tax off of it. You are talking about a multihundred million dollar business that is going on right now. Now pretend for a minute that you had another multihundred million dollar business, say, selling corn or peddling wheat, whatever, and what if you had a law that said it is illegal to do any of it in Nebraska but nobody was enforcing it? Yeah, a lot of it would go to Las Vegas or wherever it is legal but the point is you are simply missing, no pun intended, you are missing a bet. You are not taxing something that is blatantly obvious and that you are not going to do anything about otherwise. Do you remember a few years ago when we changed the gambling laws. I remember sponsoring it myself. On the very day we had the famous "Big Bust", biggest gambling bust ever up in O'Neill, Nebraska. We got some old housewives and a few other people that were booking. On the very day we were locking them up and having the headlines, on the same front page that they were felonies for Ma Smith or whoever it was, I forget her name, on that very day, there was another picture and a front page story about the Governor of, I think, Oklahoma or one of the states we were playing in some doggone Bowl Game and the Governor of Nebraska betting a side of beef and a cartload of peanuts or soybeans or some damn thing. My point is I guess it is all in the eye of the beholder but you have legalized bookie business already as legal as children smoking cigarettes and a thousand other things.

SENATOR BEUTLER: One minute.

SENATOR DEKAMP: Probably more legal because any multihundred million dollar business where you have literally no enforcement and no enforcement possible, do the next best thing, tax it. Now I know that I probably am not going to get you convinced. If I can convince you of one thing, one thing, don't kill the bill just yet. Wait and let's get a little more information. Maybe there is some way to tax it. Maybe there is some way to address this issue different, but if you make a blanket kill here just so you can salve your conscience and say that we voted against gambling, you haven't done anything. You haven't addressed the issue. You have still got a multihundred million dollar business untaxed. And for people that are scrambling and