

urge you to adopt the amendment. Senator Hefner, I am sure, is worried that if this amendment is adopted that it will eventually kill the bill itself. I assure you that if I knew that, Senator Hefner, on Final Reading I would bring it back and eliminate the amendment. But I'm sure that if there are 25 people here that agree with me, and they also agree with the horse racing and the...many of you voted to support Senator Chambers on his book-making bill. I also supported Senator Chambers. I think we have to be very consistent on what we do on this floor. I feel a little bit ashamed that I haven't done anything about this previously because I stand here before you so many times and have told you how important bingo is to my organizations, to my church. I tell you how important the pickles are, that people should be allowed to buy and also to sell pickles in order to raise proceeds for their church, or their school, or their organization. Why is it so difficult for you to accept the fact that a city, or the county, or the village is just as important as any organization, probably more important? Let me tell you a little bit about Dwight, Nebraska. Dwight, Nebraska, has 216 people. That is the population of Dwight. I've never been there. I'm sorry I haven't because there are a unique bunch of people there. Their city budget was about \$7,900. That is their city budget. They brought in video machines and they put them in two places in this small town of Dwight, Nebraska. Believe it or not, they wiped out their city budget. They don't have to take any property tax. They don't have any. They received more than \$8,000 from the video machines that wiped out their city property tax. There are people out there that are going to gamble, I'm not going to be one of them, but I tell you they are going to be there. They are going to gamble whether it is legally or illegal. They will be going in droves over to Council Bluffs, and I don't blame them. If they enjoy it, let them go over there and do it. If I enjoyed it I'd be there right with them. I urge you to adopt the amendment and be consistent and let the people decide whether or not this is a big issue. I think that we put so many things on the ballot. How many times have we put on the ballot to raise our salary, at least a dozen times that I know of. We always thought that was so important.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Half minute.

SENATOR LABEDZ: This, too, is important to some of the