

PRESIDENT: The motion prevails. The house is under call. All members sitting in your seat, please look up to the board and see that your presence light is turned on. Members in the Chamber, please turn on your green light. Members outside the Chamber, please return to the Unicameral Chamber. The house is under call. Two members are excused at the present time. Senator Schmit, would you turn on your green light please. Senator Hoagland, Senator Wesely, Senator Warner, Senator Morehead, Senator Chronister, Senator Withem, Senator Landis. Senator Carsten, he is temporarily excused. Senator Lundy. Senator Landis is the only one we are looking for at the present time I guess. Senator David Landis, the house is under call. Please report to the Chamber. We are waiting for the arrival of Senator Landis. If his office can hear my voice, please tell him he is wanted in the Chamber. Would the Sergeant-at-Arms call the Landis office and see if they can locate him. If you wish, all right, we will proceed. Senator Vard Johnson is using Senator Pappas's time.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Pappas asked me if I would do the closing on his motion to indefinitely postpone LB 144 and I said that I would be more than happy to effect his closing. I know that all of you are wondering why Senator Pappas would have offered a kill motion to LB 144 knowing that he is a sponsor of the bill. Well, the simple reason is that LB 144 is the video lottery bill that undoubtedly will have a very tortured life through the Nebraska Legislature because it is so vigorously opposed by so many different special interests in society, and knowing that a kill motion would be offered from one corner or another, Senator Pappas simply decided it might as well be him because the issue is going to be put to a vote so let's get it done early and let's see the strength of the kill or the weakness of the kill, the strength of the bill or the weakness of the bill. But before I move into the subject with any degree of fervor, let me at least indicate the subject that we are talking about. It is so important to understand that LB 144 is not a bill that would have a statewide slot machine system. It would not do that. LB 144 is simply a bill that would allow local political subdivisions that once voted on whether or not they could have a lottery to re-vote on whether or not they could have a lottery, and if they re-voted, if a majority of people who attended the election