

June 3, 1985

LB 127

PRESIDENT: I was in error because I thought that we were concluded. We are still on LB 127. For your information there are bills up here on General File that were bracketed as of to the point of April 15 or some date, but we never got to them either. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, with the adoption of the amendment to 127 which was added, there is practically every type of gambling imaginable now on the verge of being legalized in the state. The amendment I'm offering and it was going to be an amendment to LB 713, but...

PRESIDENT: The call of the house is raised.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...it is now to 127. It will legalize the taking and the making of bets on sporting events. That is what the amendment does. It requires a person to purchase a license at \$500 to legally take these bets and there is the charge of a 2 percent tax on the gross take of all bets. That is simply what the bill does. There is a situation out there now where this kind of betting is widespread. Some of the senators have made unscientific surveys in their communities even very small towns and in the same way that every town has a church, every town has one or more persons known as bookies. This bill that is being amended, LB 127, would in addition to carrying the video lottery proposition carry the amendment that I'm offering. So I'm asking that it be adopted.

PRESIDENT: Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS: (No response.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers may well argue that video lotteries open the state dramatically to additional gambling activities and, therefore, because the state will be open dramatically to