

influence, limited local influence, very limited local influence. I think Senator Hefner was at the hearing, anyways he is the chairman of the committee anyway, so I hope he was there. At the hearing and 911 basically strengthens, strengthens local control. On page 14, line 10, starting, it says, "If the local governing body of any county, city or village, after complying with the requirements of Section 53-134, recommends that a license be denied, such recommendation shall", shall, "be sufficient grounds to deny a retail license or bottle club license." Those wordage and that wordage was always lacking before and that was one of the problems we had with the Supreme Court. That was one of the problems we had with the Liquor Commission denying liquor licenses and upholding local political subdivisions, on their denial, upholding the local political subdivisions. I think this is one case that, if you go back and remember, this 911 was also approved by this Liquor Task Force Commission which had about a hundred members and they agreed on it unanimously. This wasn't just thought out in the haste or the spur of the moment like some of the amendments that you got this afternoon. 911 will correct the problems we had before in statutes, 911 with one amendment on it. It will correct all those. It will give the people basically what they want. If you want to talk about total local control which Senator Hefner is, you want to talk about stifling a lot of things and you can look at, if you have some people on a political subdivision that are a 100 percent for liquor licenses, they could run rampant. They could just give a liquor license on a daily basis to anybody anywhere. Or on the other extreme you might have the governing body of a political subdivision be totally against liquor licenses and you wouldn't have any for a long period of time. Then all of a sudden you'd see a numerous amount of court cases. The courts would probably be backlogged and I'm sure different communities in different parts of the state you've read where different communities do not approve or do approve a lot. So for the sake of a good balance in a bill that will correct the problems we had, let's vote down these amendments, vote down Senator Hefner's amendment and go on and advance the bill and let's give the tools to political subdivisions something they can work with, live with and is very fair and equitable to all.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lundy, and then Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR LUNDY: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support the amendments that Senator Hefner has prepared for you.