

opener.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, again I'm not sure how I'm going to vote on this issue. I have here the testimony of Donna Karnes on October 9, 1985 before the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. I don't know if anyone has read it. I doubt that anyone outside of those committee members have even heard of it. I think you ought to go in and take a look at it. It is kind of interesting. I think it is pretty well recognized that I am the only person, on this floor and one of the few in Nebraska, that had anything to do with legalized video lottery. It is pretty apparent to me to read that testimony. I don't know where Senator Morehead is at because I'm not going to swear, but I think it is pretty apparent that no one really cares what happens to the illegal gambling in this state. It is only the legal gambling that they are concerned with. If you want to do something about illegal gambling, then maybe you had better take a look at what is going on because Donna has said plainly they have no way, it's like trying to brand fleas, or chase down lice in a chicken coop. They are out there, they are all over, they are proliferated. But let someone try to have a legal business and you can descend upon them with the full weight of this Legislature and stamp that out. But just don't ever acknowledge that anything illegal is going on, or unusual. There are undoubtedly millions of dollars out there that are not being properly collected by the Department of Revenue because they don't have the resources. I will say this, while I was legal they had plenty of time to spend on my operation. There wasn't any opportunity for monkey business in that, but it is obvious here. I suggested one day, not entirely in a moment of jest, that if this Legislature really needed revenue, that since they had put legal video lotteries out of business they might at least collect a couple thousand dollars per machine on the illegal machines and pick up four or five million bucks. Now I'm sure no one would ever go so far as to do that. But I just want to suggest to you that it is about time to stop being so blasted hypocritical. March around with your head in the stars all you want to, overlook all those things you want to, but if you read that testimony, if you read that testimony there is millions of dollars out there going uncollected. You've got to believe Donna. I think she is right. I just changed my mind. I'm