

come to this body for the same kind of redress and I will support that and I think that I can assure the body that the Commonwealth legislators who are most interested in Commonwealth will also support those other attempts at redress. I want to point out also what I said earlier, that I'm willing to accept language if it can be presented to me that will address the issue so that the depositors are reimbursed only up to the \$30,000 although I could make some excellent arguments that they ought to receive more. I think it is important that we recognize that the actual dollar amount will also of course go to the court and the court will make the final decision and I believe that this body has in the past relied upon the court, we can rely upon the court system again in this particular instance. I think it is important to recognize that the alternatives are a long way down the road. If, in fact, we were to go to the people and get a constitutional amendment, that's not a constitutional amendment, ladies and gentlemen, that lottery proceeds per se can be used to reimburse depositors. We have to remove from the Constitution the language that says we cannot give the credit of the state to an individual. That will be most difficult. Right now I'm sure there are lottery promoters who would reimburse the Commonwealth depositors directly and the State Securities and American Savings for the right to run the operation of this state and if someone is interested in that, that might be an avenue you might pursue although I'm sure there would be many who would find problems with that. I think at this time I want to remind you again that there is only one person who spoke against the amendment, that person being Senator Coordsen who argued it on technical grounds, and when I asked him if I could point out to him that if I could guarantee that the issue was constitutional or that we could make the amendment constitutional with some minor changes, would he support it? He indicated his willingness to take a long, serious look at that and that's about as good as I'm going to get from Senator Coordsen at this point, but I can tell you that I'm willing to go to the bank with that. I want to point out also that I'm willing to make you an offer you can't refuse and you don't get those on this floor very often and that is this, that unless I can demonstrate to this body before Final Reading that the proposal we are offering here today and the legislators and others are technically co-introducers of this amendment, unless I can demonstrate to this body before Final Reading that this proposal is constitutional or we can make it so with a little adjustment, I will personally help you to remove the language from LB 850.