

the people this is what...we are giving you as an example of what we would intend to do and how it would be done. So I am asking your support in this advancement on 24CA today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I probably will vote against this resolution because I feel that when we go with the lottery, and if the people approve it, I think it hurts those people that can least afford it, and this is what I hate to see. I know like with our neighboring state, the Iowa lottery, they only pay back 45 percent. So if a person is playing the odds at all, well, he certainly wouldn't buy an Iowa lottery ticket. Also, I am concerned that it will just help destroy the work ethic that we have in Nebraska, because these people out there, when they buy lottery tickets, they feel that they are going to hit it big. But I know like in the Iowa lottery, the chances of winning the jackpot in the Iowa lottery is very minimal. You could be struck by lightning twice before you'd win an Iowa jackpot. And so do we want to see this in our state? There is many out there that is looking for the pie in the sky concept, and I don't think we want to give them that chance to do that. If a program is good, if we pass legislation here, and this program is good, why can't we be up front and say, if we pass this program, it will cause an increase in the sales and income tax, rather than go with a lottery. But if we have to go with a lottery, this would probably be a better way than not putting it before the people at all. Because at least this way, the people would have a chance to vote on it. This is the way Nebraska has parimutuel wagering, horse racing. This is the way we have bingo, and this is the way we have pickle cards. It is right in our Constitution. So if we have to have a lottery, and a lot of people say, yes, we do have to have a lottery, I believe that this the best way to work it, and then if the people approve it, well, then go ahead and say, well, we are going to regulate it real tight. We are going to see to it that there won't be much corruption in it and like that. But I think a lot of people want the lottery. I know up in northeast Nebraska there is a lot of northeast Nebraskans that are driving to Sioux City, Iowa to purchase lottery tickets. There are some of them driving to Yankton, South Dakota, and buying the South Dakota lottery tickets, so we are losing some business there. But I think overall that it would be best if we would not have the lottery in Nebraska. Thank you.