

the local option lotteries. That is not an issue. If you want to argue about whether or not an individual can play faster and spend more money on a paper lottery, as opposed to a machine lottery, I guess then I expect to see an amendment to limit the amount that can be wagered because what's the difference? If I want to spend my money up that much faster, I can just put all of it on one play and check that little piece of paper, that slip that I handed the attendant and there is no problem. The issue is not one of how fast are they going to spend their money. People who gamble in this fashion go in with a specific amount that they're willing to lose. Whether they spend it in an hour or three hours really is not a viable argument against these operations, the video keno machines. They're not video lotteries. They are one game, one form of game that can be accessed. Video lotteries is a myriad of different types of games that includes blackjack, poker. Actually, video keno is an option, a form of video lottery that a bill that I have introduced that currently is sitting in the General Affairs Committee had three votes for it and three votes against advancement. So it's not a policy decision that all of us have made in terms of banning those. My purpose for bringing in this bill and for changing the form of it, when I brought the amendment that basically did nothing more than clarify the statute, we did not do anything different than what the policy decision had already been done back in the seven...excuse me, the eighties when we supposedly banned video machines of any nature. What we had was, in my opinion, a very loose interpretation of the statutes to allow video lottery machines and all I did was, with my amendment when we previously dealt with this bill on Select File, was clarify what the Legislature had already done. That is not contrary to what I'm doing right now. What I'm doing right now is saying, here is the technology that we should address. All we needed to do was clean up something that had been done a long time ago. Here's an opportunity to address the issue of video lottery through a controlled mechanism that the Department of Revenue, through its own determination, has said that these are probably as controlled an environment that you will ever find in a lottery operation. They're tied to a computer. You can know the number of plays, the amount of money, the winnings, the losses,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...at any point in time during the operation of those games, that individual device. They are virtually