

Lincoln legislators, or else if that is not successful, then I will offer the amendment which will strike all reference to Commonwealth because if, in fact, the issue went on the ballot as it stands today and the lottery were successful, and the vote on the Commonwealth were not successful, then we would be in the very, very untenable position of finding that any funds raised from lottery would be not available to reimburse Commonwealth depositors. And, in effect, we would be saying you could use the money from lottery for anything, you can buy Schmit that red Jaguar that we are going to repossess from the compact folks, but you can't reimburse the Commonwealth depositor because we would have rejected, we would have rejected any reimbursement for Commonwealth depositors, State Securities, American Savings. I do not think we want to do that. Certainly, it has been difficult enough for those individuals to secure redress from this Legislature without placing an insurmountable roadblock before them. I know very well what the thinking is across the state and there is much sympathy out there for those individuals who lost funds through an institution which was thought to be insured, but when it comes time to take the money out of individuals pocket to reimburse them, the sympathy comes to an end. And so I rise in strong support of this amendment, and ask you to do the fair thing, the equitable thing, and support the Lincoln legislators' amendment, because to do otherwise, I believe, is not only to lose totally faith of the depositors, but to place another roadblock in their way. I do not think this Legislature, which has in the past found 25 persons willing to repay the depositors, would want to do that. So, therefore, I ask again that you support this amendment.

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

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I guess, first of all, I would like to address a statement to Senator Wesely. I know, Senator Wesely, that you have the best intentions on behalf of the Commonwealth depositors in bringing the amendment to us, but I am telling you that I rise to radically oppose returning LR 24CA, and I mean radically, to Select File, on the last day of the session for purposes of amending to merge the ballot issue for a vote of the people for or against a state lottery with that of the Commonwealth issue. You know, the Commonwealth issue, Senator Schmit, was not something that I in this 24CA brought and said put it in here with the lottery issue. My intent always has been and was that if we are going to have a state run and regulated lottery, we