

things to local level. It is going to have to be one way or the other. It is either going to have to be the locals take care of themselves, or the state, you do it all. And the state's, and we, and I think most of our citizens are uncomfortable with that all or nothing approach, that it needs to be a balance, the working between the state and the local. That is the reason you have a constitutional amendment that would recognize that balance. I don't think the Supreme Court is probably wrong in their delegation issues, but what they are telling us is here is what the rules are today. What are the rules? The rules are the Nebraska Constitution, and I think if you are comfortable with that balance between the local and their discretion and the state protecting individual property rights and protecting some of the manners in which we cancel, suspend, or revoke those licenses, then you should vote for the constitutional amendment. I think it is a policy that the state has become comfortable with as the citizens, and if you destroy that, this is not an issue of who is right or who is wrong. This is a matter of delegation, and that the courts are going to tell you if you don't change the Constitution, there is a very strong likelihood that you are not going to be able to delegate that authority to the locals, and I don't think the State of Nebraska wants to get back in that business. I don't think we want them back in that business. At the same time, we want the locals to be able to control their own destiny. I was very uncomfortable with the constitutional amendment until you had this last amendment where you took out the privilege in the Constitution. I think it accurately now reflects the balance that we have and want between the locals' desires of who gets licenses and the state protecting individual rights. And with that, I would resist the motion to kill this bill and indefinitely postpone it and would support LR 9. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. I rise in support of the motion of Senator Robak to indefinitely postpone the bill. The question isn't whether or not to allow cities to have the ability to regulate liquor licenses. I think that the Legislature has done. As pointed out, it is done on a number of occasions. We have said that, and I have supported those, even though I don't think that placing LR 9 before the voters makes any sense. I mean, if you buy the argument that has been made by proponents that you want to guarantee that cities or any governmental subdivision, for that matter, anyone