

to guarantee that the payment will come out of the Charitable Gaming Cash Fund which, as you all know, is completely cash funded to date. With that, I would move for the advancement of LB 397 to E & R Initial. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Those wishing to speak on LB 397. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, ...Mr. President, and members, LB 397, as Senator Hall mentioned, was the other proposal. The Appropriations Committee had introduced a bill to, as we did last session, I believe, to do away with the Gaming Commission. Certainly, the history of that Gaming Commission is that it was...you had enough activity in that area to Cash Fund the operation and to generate the fees to operate it. It has always been our opinion if there's no longer a demand for the commission, you need to consider totally doing away with it. And so that was the stance that the committee came from. Actually, the way things operate right now and the way things are right now in LB 541, the big Kahuna, so to speak, there is the money for the Cash Fund authority for the Gaming Commission. If 397 would pass, you would have to amend the A bill probably to take that...take that money out, but I guess the key thing is, and though the other bill was certainly my preference and actually the committee has not really talked about 397, so to speak, only for myself am I speaking now, but my preference would have been the other bill, but at least by going the route of 397 you take care of the particular problem that I know I, myself, had of putting General Funds into this operation. Now there's a policy question on whether or not those Charitable Gaming funds should be used to help sustain the Athletic Commission, but there is certainly...it's the preferable way of doing it than the straight General Funds and so 397 is, I guess, in my opinion, better than no bill at all in that area.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Moore. Before we move on, I would introduce a guest under the south balcony. A guest of Senator Janssen is Scott McMasters who is a grandson of former Senator Ross Rasmussen. Welcome to the Chamber. The next speaking on LB 397, Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I rise in support of LB 397. We had a very interesting hearing on it. It was very informative and I fully support the measure. I think it is an excellent way to go on this. I know there has been