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FLOOR DEBATE

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on gambling, that \$100 would have been spent for perhaps paying off their credit card, putting it in money for their kids' education, paying off a bill that they needed. If you take the \$100 from many people who are earning 20,000 bucks and you get it into a pile of 5 million bucks, and somebody wins 5 million bucks, you know what they spend the 5 million bucks for? A vacation home, a third house. It takes away money from people who are going to pay on their credit card debt, and turns it into a third vacation home. It reduces the value of the money to meet real needs. That's one of the things that gambling does. It reduces the value of money, the utility of money. So I'm against it. But that option is not available. I am persuaded that if we do nothing, the public will do something on their own. Because there's two things out there. There's an organized set of folks with lots of resources, and there are people who want to vote for gambling, some because they want to gamble, and some because they want other people to gamble and they want other people to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...pay their taxes. But that's out there. This choice is where you have the narrowest amount of access to gambling. And for that reason, I vote for this, because this will mean the least amount of gambling, because there...the no-gambling option, I think, is off the table.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Tyson, LR 14CA.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I want to tell Senator Landis that Mark Twain said it first, and said it better. A quotation from The Man Who Corrupted Hadleyville (sic): All the fools in town are on our side; how much greater a majority does any man need? (Laughter) Not that I didn't appreciate your remarks. Gambling is not immoral, but neither is it productive. A couple of hundred years ago, Samuel Johnson, one of the most learned men who ever spoke English, pointed out that the gambler is an unsocial man; he does not produce anything. And gaming, which is what he called it--it's the earliest use of "gaming" for "gambling" that I know