

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 18, 2004 LR 14, 240

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I do support Senator Smith's amendment to have just one casino in the state of Nebraska. I've been long told that it takes about a million to support one casino. We have a million seven here in this state, and certainly a number of those people are going to Iowa. But to proliferate, certainly, casinos across the state--and if we had eight casinos, those casinos would be small. Many of them could perhaps be tin sheds with flashing lights, like you see up in South Dakota and other places where they have an unlimited number of casinos, as opposed to a destination facility that would include a large hotel and perhaps other shops along with that. It just seems to me that as you proliferate more, certainly you're going to have more gambling. I see a little further down the way where Senator Smith has an amendment that would put more dollars into the Compulsory Gambling Commission, which I also would support, in that, as we promote more gambling we're going to have more people with addiction. But getting back to this issue, certainly to limit the number of casinos certainly would be advantageous. And it would be interesting to see...it looks to me like we're almost going to have...when we get to the ballot, there's going to be a multiple choice question for the people as they go to vote, as this would be number five on the list of petitions out there for the voter to select. Hopefully the voter would select those that limit gambling, rather than expand it far beyond where we...any of us in this body ever felt that we were going, many, many years ago when this issue first came up. So I would stand in support of FA1469, would urge the body to do also. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have amendments to be printed, a series of amendments to LR 14CA. And, Mr. President, new resolution, LR 240, by Senator Cudaback. That will be laid over. (Legislative Journal pages 659-660.)

Mr. President, I have a priority motion.