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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I did hand out a document yesterday that shows the initiatives that are being...that have taken place in other states. It's not the Legislature that's going to do something to this, it's the initiative process that we have to worry about, and well-intended people. And so that's why putting this in the constitution would stop that type of activity. And so you can take a look at it and see what's happening in other states, and it is our duty, I think, to remain vigilant. I would also say the constitution does not belong to the Legislature, it does not belong to the elitists of this state, it belongs to the people. And you know, if you want to criticize the constitution, there's a lot of things that have been put into it that maybe the elitist or the purist would say is not appropriate. But I maintain that it belongs to the people and the people have indicated to me that they want a chance to vote on that. And evidence says in other states when it's put on the ballot, it passes by 80 percent, more than any other ballot initiative or constitutional amendment put on any ballots in any states anywhere. This is the one that people want to vote on and they do so overwhelmingly in a high majority, and so I would encourage you to stay the course. We'll get through this and in November of '06, the people of this state will have a chance to put this in our constitution, and it will make it certainly more difficult for people who would oppose the type of activities that most of us grew up with, still enjoy and our families enjoy, would be preserved. So with that, I would close my...I would stop my remarks and turn my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Mr. Clerk, first motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have this morning, Senator Chambers, FA36. (Legislative Journal page 628.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on FA36 to LR 8CA.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President, friends all, and I mean that sincerely. I'm pleased to be here this morning. The temperature is moderate. The air is moving in the Chamber. I believe my colleagues will be able to maintain attention for at