

can talk about gambling as an economic windfall, a creator of much needed jobs that might be here. We need to look at those jobs that are created by gambling. Gambling related jobs tend to be lower paying, other businesses suffer from the introduction of gambling, and gambling is associated with a host of costly social problems. In New Jersey it was found that nearly two-thirds of the casino employees made less than \$25,000 a year...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...a blackjack dealer in Las Vegas makes about \$4.25 an hour, the average crap dealer makes 5 bucks an hour, and the average pay for a gambling casino employee in Las Vegas is 21,477, that's barely above the amount that he could get again from welfare. Money from gambling is usually diverted from people's discretionary expenditures, not only are dollars diverted from other products and services, but governments also lose sales tax that would have been spent on those products and are now going to gambling. I urge you to support the kill motion on the Hall amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Cudaback would like to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature today, there are 35 fourth and fifth graders here today from Amherst Elementary School in Amherst, Nebraska with their sponsors. They are in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Witek, your light is next, followed by Senators Wesely, Abboud and Jones.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the body, I guess I just wanted to make sure that everyone realizes that this is probably the only opportunity you will have this year. As I was talking to Senator Hall, this is the only bill that has come out of committee. This is the only opportunity to decide the issue up or down. And there won't be any other time, once this bill is either killed, if it's killed we'll be done with this issue this year. If it goes on, I believe there will be considerable amending and a considerable amount of time involved in discussion of this issue, not only from the issues that Senator Jensen just discussed and other senators have discussed, but in the actual workings of the bill itself. And I think there will be a lot of time involved for this bill, should it get past this kill motion. So I want people to make sure that they consider