

Please record.

CLERK: 23 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, to place the house under call.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The house is under call. Will senators please return to their seats. Will all unauthorized personnel please leave the floor, the house is under call. Senator's please check in. Senator Hall, you may proceed.

SENATOR HALL: Madam President, members, and I'd like to thank the members who spoke to the motion to indefinitely postpone. Once again I rise in opposition to the motion to indefinitely postpone, but I bring it to the body for the debate that we had. And I appreciate those folks who took part, those who listened, and I'll appreciate even more those who vote against it, but understanding full well that there is a number of folks who feel like Senator Jones just said, that they think it's not where government ought to be. Well the fact of the matter is that government is in gambling in Nebraska. We have been into gambling since the thirties, since the people voted on the ballot issue to allow for parimutuel wagering. Ever since that time, for the past 60 years, we have had gambling in this state in one form or another. And every time we've allowed the people to address the issue before we really expanded it. And that's what this proposal will do, it will say before there's an expansion of gambling in this state, to go into the next phase of technology, if you will, into video gambling, we're going to allow for the people to vote on it. That's important. We're going to make sure that the regulation and controls are in place, that it is as foolproof as it can be, that's important. We're going to ensure that there is that participation for the local entities so they have some control and some say in where the dollars that they receive go. Senator Abboud says that there's a problem because you have different number of groups that are involved in the baking of this cake, as Senator Chambers puts it. Sometimes you're right, Senator Abboud, too many cooks does spoil the cake, in this case instead of the broth. But the...I would argue that nobody hates dealing with those special interest groups more than I. And for me to spend my weekend hashing this out with them is penance in its own right. I much...would much rather had gone through the Russian roulette, Senator Chambers, and the problem is I play Russian roulette with these kinds of proposals, only I have five of the chambers full and only one blank, that's the problem. I