

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: If authorized by the Legislature.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: That's right, or rooster fighting, or...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Whatever was authorized by the Legislature.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So, really, that provision provides pretty much of a blank check relative to ever having to go back to the voters again to deal with this gambling issue. Correct?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Right, if it is authorized by the Legislature.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So if LR 43CA goes before the voters and they approve LR 43CA, they are, in essence, saying that's the last time, unless the Legislature would arbitrarily choose to do so, that really the Legislature would ever have to go back to the voters to vote on gambling. Right?

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So it is kind of a speak now or forever hold your peace circumstance, isn't it?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: That's right, yeah.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay, thank you, Senator. I appreciate your answers relative to that. I, obviously, maybe not so obviously, I do not support the amendment that's before us, hope that the other members look at the amendment. First of all, I am not... I am not convinced that we need a Gaming Commission in the constitution. I certainly don't believe that we need to put in the constitution that we are only going to regulate our current gaming as it currently exists for five years, then we are going to throw that open to other changes by the Legislature. I just don't see that as a constitutional issue. And also I hope people recognize that if this continues in its same form, then, in essence, while this might be a first step, it is not the only step because, of course, the initiative process is out there for the citizens of this state to...