

head down the road to increase the convenience of gambling so that it is in every truck stop and every club in every small town in the state. I admire the Star-Herald from 400 miles west of here for coming out and just frankly saying this is an issue, and I quote, they say, "This measure should never be brought before Nebraskans. It, assuredly, does not warrant something as weighty as a constitutional amendment." I strongly support the bracket motion. We have serious problems in this state. This Legislature needs to use its time addressing some of our serious problems and put this behind us. I urge you all to support Senator Chambers' motion to bracket.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Matzke. I will read the list again: Senator Jensen, Lynch, Will, Bromm, Chambers, Brown, Pirsch, Stuhr, and Schmitt. Senator Jensen, on the bracket motion.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. You know, it is interesting when you look at what is happening in our surrounding states, and then should Nebraska become involved in expanded gambling. In South Dakota last year, they narrowly lost by only 17,000 votes a bill which would have thrown out gambling altogether, that would have put sales tax and income tax on a state that prides itself in the fact that they don't have sales and income taxes. But they have experienced the tremendous costs, social costs, bankruptcies, closing of businesses, divorce, abuse, all of that, that Sioux Falls, South Dakota, come out and overwhelmingly wanted to throw gambling out. That's one state. The state of Louisiana, right now, the Governor is calling for a referendum down there, a state where two casinos have already gone bankrupt. One, after putting in \$33 million, decided it wasn't economically sound and they pulled out, leaving the city with a half-finished casino. There is also another casino down there that have gone busted, and so here we have Louisiana, who has gambling, saying we are going to have a referendum and maybe we will throw it out of here, too. Then we have Minnesota who has Indian casinos, and in a four-day article by the Minneapolis Star Tribune said I wished we would have studied the issue before we allowed gambling into our state. You know, you really look at this bill and you say, what is it? Is it a bill to allow the voters to decide? Well, you know, the voters really are deciding in that one-half of this body is up for reelection. Now they can look at how that individual is going to vote on 43CA, and if he says,