

have. People who are saving to buy homes, they will use their down payments from their homes. This is an addictive game, it's not a game, it's very serious, but this has been proven to be very highly addictive, especially the slot machines. I don't think any church would back such an addictive form of gambling. And I don't think it's right for us to stand on the floor and say that that's the case. So I want people to realize there are huge economic impacts. There are huge business impacts on the state of Nebraska. I have polled my constituents. A vote of the people, I have polled them very seriously, hundreds and hundreds, talked to them, hundreds and hundreds I have, I have polling done from them, I have it sitting on my desk in my office, you're welcome to look at that, on how they feel about gambling. My polls in my district are running 70 to 30 against expanded gambling. So I feel that that's what I've been represented to do, to represent that. I've asked them how, how to best represent them and that's the answer that I keep getting back. On the area of the Governor's lead, I got this letter from someone who wants to expand gambling. It says, I think you should take the Governor's lead and realize that politically you lose nothing by letting the people vote the matter for themselves. You may have more at risk at this point if you decide that you know what is best for the people you represent better than they do themselves. So this is the political blackmail, I suppose, that people want to see. First of all, the ironic thing here is to say that the Governor is actually leading by not taking a position. I know that's traditionally what he does, is not take a position on something, but I certainly would not call that leadership.

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: And to say that I will lose nothing by taking the same position here, that I will politically lose nothing, I am not here to gain politically. I am here to represent the people in my state that including my own family, including my own children, and I don't find the future vision for this state is expanded gambling. I would rather the time and effort that we have spent, and the money that has been spent, would be to focus on the future of my children and the tremendous expansions that we can do in the areas of technology in the state of Nebraska rather than expanding gambling. Let's expand technology here, let's be the shining example of what we can do here for the future in the economic environment and economic