

development in the United States of America here in Nebraska. That's what we should all be pulling together on and doing an...and trying to represent my family and my children and not shouldering them with more debt, more government programs to pick up some of the...

SENATOR COORDSEN: Time.

SENATOR WITEK: Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I spoke once on this issue about a week ago. I hesitated to stand up and say something else again, but I'm going to say a little bit. I do support the people's right to vote on an issue. The problem is I envisioned a different constitutional amendment where the people really understood what they're voting on. This just says Legislature...or this just says to the people, trust the Legislature and we'll come back and make that decision next year. I still don't think the people in my legislative district envision gambling every place in the state of Nebraska. I think they envision casino gambling at our racetracks. And I think if that was the constitutional amendment this morning, I could probably vote for it. And, Senator Jim Jensen, I commend you for your efforts, telling us about the ills of gambling. I considered gambling kind of like alcoholism. A high percentage of the people can enjoy it and treat it, treat it with the kind of respect that it needs so they can have some financial responsibility with it. But there's a small percentage out there that gets hooked on it, and of course for them it has disastrous effects. Now we tried prohibition, that didn't work. And this issue won't be dead this morning. The bracket motion probably has the votes. It'll be up again some other time. But I can't vote for this constitutional amendment because it says to the people, trust the Legislature. And I don't know where it's going, and I don't think the people in my district, I'll say it again, want gambling everywhere in the district. So, yes, we know gambling is wrong, we know the ills, I wished Iowa and South Dakota weren't doing what they're doing. And rather than ramble any longer, I'm going to give Senator Dierks the rest of my time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Dierks.