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Environmental Trust Fund money gets spent, we're making a huge mistake. You ought to at least channel some of that money over and let the NRDs, who we know are more accountable, who do a better job of it and put some of the money there, and I suggest you ought to put some money into buildings that we've neglected in this state because we didn't have the money to do it. This lottery money is real money, whether the people give it to you or whether you tax it. If it all had to go into General Funds, none of these projects would be funded because they're all lower priorities. They're nice but they'd fall much lower priorities, and I think we've really got to begin to look at that. And I realize that it's not on the Chamber's amendment, but today seems to be the time and the opportunity to discuss the lottery in total and I'm telling you these proceeds...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...I plan to investigate further and I think you should too.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Jensen, followed by Senators Schrock, Janssen, Baker, Chambers, and Dierks.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. This is a good discussion this afternoon and I think we need to think a little bit about just what the role of government is. Why are we here? I always thought the role of government is to protect life, liberty and property, to provide security. Well, we take a look at lotteries and that just runs completely the opposite of that. And rather than government being the protector of the public, now we are the predator of the public with lotteries. We are the ones who are telling them that for the social good of this state you need to buy more lottery tickets. How can we do that? How can we, in good conscience, do that? Buying lottery tickets is not for public goods. It doesn't provide a safety net. There is a disproportionate share, look sometimes where the lottery tickets are sold in a state, look where they are sold in your city. They are not sold in the upper income areas of a city. They're sold in the lower income portions of the city. I looked at Omaha. They are not sold in west Omaha where the big homes are.