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fact, I...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR HILGERT: ...recoiled when I heard that, you know, sitting in judgment. I'm so...I'm...I hope that we never have to sit in judgment from the Native American peoples for our past. I don't think that the verdict would look very kindly on many of our actions, those of us who came to this continent. Again, we can't be responsible for those actions of our fathers, but we can be responsible for our actions today and I implore the body to support pulling this bill out of committee. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Further discussion on the motion, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Schimek, but I am supporting Senator Schimek in her...in the position that she talked about when she originally voted on legislation in this regard. To me, this is about gambling, and promoting gambling as a way to redress the inequities of history does not change that history. The merely symbolic vote that Senator Beutler talked about here is for us to vote to promote gambling as a way to make up for what has happened to indigenous people; to...to promote gambling as a way to say that we believe in sovereignty. There was an article in the paper today that was referenced but...but it was not explained fully, about WinnaVegas, which is a Native American gambling in Iowa that has been threatened because of the competition from the casinos. And so the tribe lowered the gambling age from 21 to 18, not because of any of the issues that have the goodness that has been talked about on this floor about that's going to happen because of this, and it's been eloquently talked about--better economic development and better law enforcement and some other issues. They...they lowered the age not because of anything that was good, but because of competition and wanting to increase attendance and wanting that attendance to be even young people, who now they've had a huge increase in the number of young people who are underage and who are drinking in their casino. And so I do think that this is about gambling and I do think that we cannot...we cannot enter