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FLOOR DEBATE

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understand there are pending amendments but that the filers of the amendments have asked not to take those up at this time?

CLERK: I believe that is true, Mr. President. I have three amendments and each of the introducers has said they do not want to take them up at this time.

SPEAKER BROMM: Is there any objection? If not, we'll pass over the amendments at this time, and go to the next speaker, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of the concept of putting this issue on the ballot. I think this is something that's time has come. Five years ago when I was first elected to the Legislature, I felt my district, which is an inner city district in Omaha, was overwhelmingly opposed to casino gaming. And now I think it's the exact opposite. I think that people want something on the ballot and I think there is...I don't know if it's overwhelming support but very strong support, I believe, for this concept to be on the ballot now. And I think that's evidenced by the fact that the slot machine issue was on the ballot and, quite honestly, I don't know if people in here supported that or not, but that was a very, very poor initiative and I think would be very bad for Nebraska. And, quite honestly, one of the reasons that I'm supporting putting this on the ballot now is so that we can prevent a poor constitutional amendment, such as that one, from being on the ballot again. Again, I think that Nebraskans' views have switched on this, and, again, I don't know what the polls say, but I believe that the support is significant for some type of a casino issue to be on the ballot. Senator Schimek had several points and I'm in agreement with most all of them. I absolutely believe that any revenues generated by a casino should be shared by the entire state. The entire state should share in revenues generated by the casino, whether that casino is in Omaha or Grand Island or wherever. The entire state should share in that revenue. I am concerned, however, in LB 14CA on page 3 where it talks about revenue should not be allocated within any county in which gaming is conducted under the subsection. I spoke with Senator Schimek about that, and I