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Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 27, 2003 LR 14

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...conversations with a lot of people in here, is that we needed to share with some of the rest of the state, so that Omaha, in this case, would not be the only beneficiary. Because we know that Omaha is going to benefit big time from a casino. So I'm willing to keep talking about it, and I'm willing to keep looking at the language. The other thing I would say to you is, we don't have horse racing on here. If we do at some point in the future, then we have to take another look at this language. You know, that's a different story, and that would be...we'd have to juggle that language, I think. Because horse racing casinos, or "racinos," or whatever you want to call them, if they were adopted, would not be nearly as lucrative as a kind of destination casino in Omaha. So I'm willing to keep exploring it. At this point, I'm not willing to say that we should give up this idea.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne and Senator Schimek. Senators wishing to speak are Senators Hartnett, Friend, Loudon, Janssen, Jensen, Bromm, Brashear, Schimek, Erdman, Tyson, and Smith. Senator Hartnett, on LR 14CA.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President and members of the body, what I have heard from my district, there's two things they want us to do this year in the Legislature. One is to fix LB 775, and we're trying to do that, and I think we've got something maybe bubbling in the Revenue Committee, which I serve on, to deal with that. And the second thing is that they want to vote on casino gambling. They want a chance to vote on casino gambling. They don't say what kind of it, but that's what they want to vote. And I...you know, we talked the other day about, you know, do we need to do it now, because of this other proposal out there? I think we in this body can shape something that...if we're going to have casino gambling beyond what we right now, that it should be done through this body, where there is hearings, there's all this debate, and so forth, rather than going out and do the petition drive. Because I think, if we wanted to, some of us from this body could get out and pass, I