

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 27, 2003 LR 14

we wait for Wyoming to move, and then we will have to do it next to Wyoming too. Now, of course, we can debate...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Schimek, followed by nine others.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Brashear, your point is very well taken. And I have as much love for the constitutional language that is in our federal document as you do. But one thing that those authors of that language didn't have is they didn't have initiative and referendum, and they didn't have lobbyists, and they could just write it to their hearts' content. (Laugh) I would like to talk with...or maybe not talk with, but talk to Senator Janssen for a...Jensen for a few minutes and address a couple of the things he said. And I think your concern is legitimate, Senator, about the 18-year-olds. But frankly, Iowa screwed up. They should have, when they were doing their compacting, they should have made that one of the requirements of the compact. And that would certainly be something that we could and should do when we're in the process of doing that compacting, as well as when we pass enabling legislation so that when we're dealing with commercial casinos we could deal with those same kinds of restrictions. And I think it's a legitimate point. The other thing that you were talking was the amount of retail sales that go down when casinos come in, and I think the 4 percent figure is what you used. And I can't argue with that, because I don't have the information to argue with that. But I would just say to you, if we're going to use that as a yardstick for whether we do this or not, then we should be using it as a yardstick for Wal-Mart and all the other kinds of groups that we do let come into the state, because I'm sure that when Wal-Mart comes into a town, those retail sales do go down in that community. So I don't think that's a really important argument. And then the...the one that I really think I can try to address with you is the language in the bill. And as I have mentioned several times today, there's an amendment up there that would amend over here on page 3 of the bill, Senator, on line 25, where it says, "The Legislature shall allocate portions of the revenue," that is state tax revenue that we were talking about there, but we didn't clearly state it. So that would be there. And then, when you go back over to your language that you're