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SENATOR ERDMAN: ...we have a push in the body right now to require minimum wage for these new businesses that come in. Casinos are exempt, rightfully so. They shouldn't access the state's revenue or the state's General Fund for tax credits. But here's the other thing. Casinos are going to pay a minimum wage. So what happens is, is that you have minimum wage jobs coming in, in a facility in a large community like Omaha, taking away from other places of business because everyone can run over and buy a steak for \$2 at the casino. So now we've run out the steakhouses, we've eliminated those jobs, and we've seen that because it's happened in every other place where a casino has gone in. We had a gentleman here the other day from Minnesota. He's from Mount Pleasant, I believe. He said he's probably the only person that never went to the casino, but he saw the effects of it every day and it was the exact same things that I just talked about. It's the social cost, it's the cost to businesses, and it's eventually going to be a cost to the taxpayers of the state to try and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...pick up the cost of taking care of those that we have forced this upon. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. We keep hearing about the threat of a petition and how bad that could be, and I want to remind the body that some things that even sound good don't pass on the ballot. Immediately what come to my mind, Initiatives 411, 412, 413, 414. All four of those even had major dollars behind them, major coalitions behind them, and they failed, even though they sounded great. Ooh, we're going to put a cap on spending, a cap on taxes; that sounds great. Didn't pass. And then we almost had another ballot measure last fall, as you all know, that didn't quite make it to the ballot, and it didn't even really sound good. The supporters of it certainly promised tax relief, and I've told folks, you know, if you felt tax relief from the lottery, the advent of the lottery, maybe you might feel tax relief from