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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CUDABACK:    One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK:    ...was just this...early this year, I believe. And you will see that overwhelmingly the people in the counties where that gambling is located support the continuation by very high margins.    And Pottawattamie County, you can see: yes, 20,074 people; no, 5,190. The total in all the counties that have casino gaming: yes, 217,607; no, 89,612. I would suggest to you that these are more illustrative and more factual than the kind of fluff that we saw in the Omaha World-Herald editorial this morning. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK:    Thank you, Senator Schimek.    (Visitors introduced.)    Discussion on the Janssen amendment.    Senator Smith, Brashear, Connealy, Redfield, Bourne, Mines, and Erdman.    Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH:    Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I hope to focus on the amendment here, and specifically subsection (b) of the amendment, that reads, "Nothing in the Constitution of Nebraska shall be construed to prohibit or restrict gaming operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Nebraska when such gaming is conducted in accordance with federal law."    And then it goes on about the eight facilities that would be subject to the Legislature's regulation. I rise in opposition to this amendment, probably more vehemently than prior suggestions. And what concerns me the most is when this was being billed as a compromise.    And certainly I don't think that the term "compromise" accurately describes this issue.    And I'm not saying that I should have been invited to the meeting, given my position on the issue.    But there are a lot of folks with interests in expanded gambling in Nebraska that I don't believe were involved in the meeting, whether it's cities and charitable gaming, or the American Legion with charitable gaming, or what have you.    There are a lot of folks that I don't believe were included in the meeting.    But I do have a question for Senator Schimek, relating to the amendment, if she would yield.

SENATOR CUDABACK:    Do you yield, Senator Schimek?