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FLOOR DEBATE

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could not want to consider it or continue it. And you would think that the people in Iowa are a pretty balanced people, I've always thought they were, that they are pretty capable of weighing the pluses and the minuses of a public policy question, that if gambling, casino-style gambling was a horrible evil that it's been portrayed to be, that surely the people of Iowa would have said enough. We don't want any more of this. We are the ones who have experienced it and we don't want any more of this. And I would think we would give more weight to their actual experience than to whatever hypothetical experience one might think Nebraskans would have, if gam...if casino gambling came, because they, in Iowa, those people have actually experienced it. And if you look at how they voted, it looks like every sizeable county voted in favor of retaining casino gambling, and everywhere the vote was overwhelming. And the total vote was 217,000 plus in favor of retaining gambling and 89,000 against, more than two-thirds, an overwhelming vote on such a potentially divisive public policy question. So it seems to me that one would have to say, if one is looking at things in balance, all the pros and all the cons, that we must be badly exaggerating and increasing the cons and not accounting for the pluses in our debate here in Nebraska because these people in Iowa, who have actually experienced the system that we're going to largely parrot, have been overwhelmingly supportive of what has happened in their society. And if you look at Pottawattamie County, which is, of course, where they have three casino-style locations, three, there, if anything, all the problems should show up there, if anyplace. And there, if anyplace, people should be offended by what's happening, if there are, in fact, offensive things happening. And yet the vote in Pottawattamie County was 20,000 in favor and 5,000 against, more like three-quarters than 68 percent. Yes, you say,...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...they got a lot of revenues on one side, and that's true. And there are some social problems, no doubt, and that's true. But these are people who have looked at these things in balance and decided it's not all as horrible as envisioned by some people and, in fact, we think it's just fine. Surely, the evidence of a people who have actually experienced a