

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 4, 2003 LR 11

Thank you. Senator Stuhr and Senator Chambers, the house is under call. The house is under call, Senator Chambers and Senator Stuhr. We're waiting for Senator Chambers. All members present, the question before the body is the adoption of AM0656 to LR 11CA. Been a request for a roll call vote. Mr. Clerk, call the roll.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal pages 725-726.) 26 ayes, 17 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment is adopted. I do raise the call. Mr. Clerk. We are now on the motion to advance LR 11CA. Open for discussion on that motion, Senator Hartnett, followed by Senator Kruse. Senator Hartnett, you're recognized.

SENATOR HARTNETT: I'd just call the question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, your objection is well taken and there hasn't been a full and fair debate on LR 11CA, itself, so we will go on with the discussion. Senator Kruse.

SENATOR KRUSE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I have listened to this debate carefully and have not spoken, do want to speak before we vote. My question is, who is going to pay the bill? And I have not heard that question answered. This proposal would, let's just put it in its rosiest aspect, put one casino in downtown Omaha and that pulls \$30 million in revenue back from Iowa, but it also takes \$145 million in gamblers' losses out of the pockets of people. Thirty of that million goes into the taxpayers. That's fine. But it's obvious these costs do not come together. Every estimate we have of anything like this is somebody has got to pay the bill. Now this is an asset, let's say down there. I'll grant that. There is nothing moralistic at all in my debate. We already have gambling, so that's not where I'm coming from at all. It's just plain bucks. If we're going to do this, we've got to decide who is going to pay the bill. Now I keep hearing exotic tales about where the revenue is going to go. That doesn't answer the question who is going to pay the bill. Omaha will come out okay with the rosy scenario of ones there, but the rest of Nebraska will pay the