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that we get up and talk about what it is that we hear and how we shape the public policy of the state of Nebraska. But I think within that discussion we have to be clear. What were we told? What were the citizens of the state of Nebraska trying to tell the rest of the state with the petition process from last year? Who were they speaking to? Okay? Well, I don't know, but what I heard them saying was, is that we're the bar owners and we want 50 percent of the profits. That's what I heard. I didn't hear this is great for Nebraska. I didn't hear this is going to benefit the state somehow. I didn't hear any of that, and I think most Nebraskans, when looking at a proposal, want to know how it's going to benefit the state regardless of whether they gamble or not. Now, the initiative that was taken off the ballot and is in the courts now again just says, hey, you know what, in our State Constitution we're going to allow or we're going to ensure that of all the profits that are generated from whatever form that was to be proposed under that initiative, that they would receive 50 percent of the profits for the actual owner of the facility. Well, great for them. Why don't we all pass initiatives around to protect our own little industry and try and figure out how we can steal more of the people's money for our own personal gain? That's essentially what we're talking about here. So let's be clear about what we were asked last year, what they were asking the voters to do, and that was to line their own pockets.

SENATOR HARTNETT: One minute.

SENATOR ERDMAN: I think Senator Tyson has pointed out that LR 11CA again is going to line the pockets of some people, mainly individuals in the casino business, very limited benefit to the state of Nebraska, if any. And as I pointed out, in Iowa there's absolutely a detrimental effect on those small communities. Now I would say small is less than 50,000. So if you look around the state of Nebraska and you say, okay, how many communities do we have in the state of Nebraska that are bigger than 50,000? Count them on one hand. So then what do you start looking around and say, well, you know what, if we had a casino in some of these other communities, what would that do? It would devastate them. So let's be honest about what we're asking and let's be honest and understanding that what we were