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Erdman. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. And Senator Chambers isn't here. I was just going to tell him I only look naive, I'm not naive, in answer to something he said earlier. But, Senator Maxwell, I really appreciate your comments and I'm very cognizant that the World-Herald owns a lot of newspapers in Nebraska, I think the Scottsbluff Herald, the Kearney Hub, the Fremont paper I think now. There's quite an array of them. And I recognize also the fact that they do have separate editorial boards. But I do think that there is some influence there, but even if it weren't I think that you...if there weren't I think that you would still have to look at why is it good on one side of the river and not good on the other side of the river. I would like to call your attention to the article I passed out, and this is from the...it doesn't say on it, it should have, but it's from the Council Bluff's paper and it's talking about "Gambling revenue affects standard of living." And I agree with Senator Maxwell. We have never tried to lead anybody on this floor into thinking this was going to be a panacea for any kind of revenue problems that we might have. And, in fact, we've tried to say over and over again any revenues that come in should not be part of the General Fund; you should not make your government dependent on gambling funds. And when people talk about other states and the fact that they are raising their property taxes or they're raising their other taxes, that's because people in other states are not putting these gambling revenues into their general operating budgets. They're smart too. I would like to call your attention to just a couple of things from this article regarding gambling revenue, and on the first page it talks about the Iowa West Foundation and it says, "The Iowa West Foundation has now surpassed \$100 million in funding to over 1,000 different community projects. Milestones like this are a sign that communities are benefiting." Then, on the second page, it talks about Bob Mundt, who's the president of the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce, and talking about the positive economic impact that the casinos have had on the creation of new jobs and expansion of the tax base in Pottawattamie County. It says that, according to a recent resolution by the chamber of commerce to encourage its members to support casino gambling, solid reasons