

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 2, 2003

LR 11

it's very, very hard to do...but we sometimes have to separate our personal biases or feelings from what might be an absolute duty. And I think we have an absolute duty to put as good a measure together as we can, and let the people have their say. And I...there may not be something that gets past here that I can vote for. But that really isn't important to me. What's important to me is that people have a chance to vote on something that is decent and workable, changeable, and something that we can control. By "we", it will be those, probably, who follow us. But I'd much rather have representatives who are elected by the people in charge of this activity than I would anyone else. So back to my amendment. It does one thing and one thing only. It says the maximum number of casinos would be up to four, instead of up to eight. And so that's it, Mr. President. If there are questions, I'll try to respond.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Bromm amendment, AM1139, to AM1119 by Senator Don Pederson to LR 11CA. Those wishing to speak are Senators Schimek, Janssen, Erdman, Jones, Senator Don Pederson, and Senator Beutler. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members. I was just asking about this amendment, because I wasn't certain if it's drafted to the Pederson amendment or if it's drafted to the...I don't know what it's drafted to. But anyway, we'll get that straightened out. I guess I would...I have mixed feelings about this. I would like to rise in support of the Bromm amendment that would give us fewer casinos. I've never felt that large numbers of casinos were either practical or good public policy, but was persuaded that this is a maximum number, the number that we agreed to on General File, that that's a maximum number that we would ever have, and that the state may not choose to license more than two, or more than four, or whatever. I'm much more comfortable with the number four than I am with the number eight. But I'm not sure that that really gets to another policy decision that we made on General File that allows us now to have casinos anywhere in the state, rather than along the borders, where you're going to have the least social impact that you're going to have anywhere else in the state. Because I think I could say with some authority that you