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is Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I was very surprised to hear Senator Chambers describe his epiphany. And it sounded almost like an instant replay of some testimony some of us gave on the prior file. I will say that I do agree that many people's minds are already made up. And I would like to make a comment about representative government. I have been characterized by some of the opponents of gaming as not being representative of the people if I do not become paternalistic with them and say, no, no, no, I'm sorry, what you're asking me to vote for is wrong, because I don't believe in it personally and I'm going to cast my vote against it. I cannot be paternalistic. I've got to come back and live with these people who sent me here to do what they want me to do. And I think all of us feel that responsibility to our district. I would like to share a little story about life in Jackson County, Kentucky. That is a dry county. What that means is no booze anywhere. Some of us grew up in those places. And I want to tell you how dry Jackson County was. We had over 100 bootleggers in that place, two of them on my road. The first of the month, . . . I worked home health and hospice. I took my life in my hands driving the road the first of the month when everybody got their checks and their money and they went to the bootleggers. Not regulated. Sold to minors. Available around the clock. No control on what kind of booze was sold. They sold Everclear to 14-year-old kids. They sold moonshine, you name it. If a buck was in it, they sold it, 24 hours a day. No regulation. No limit on where it could be gotten, how much was being sold. That's life in a dry county. We are whistling in the dark. I told this to several people and I had a guy, you know, from the antigambling lobby talk to me today, and very respectfully, and we shared our opinions. And so far listening to the debate, I'm still of the opinion that we need to regulate vices. We are walking down a dark alley where ten murders have been committed at two in the morning, unarmed, whistling in the dark. If we expect nothing to happen, if we do nothing, I'm not fearful of the petition. I just think it's my responsibility to craft legislation to control a vice. Then that's what I'm put in here to do, and I know, very respectfully, people don't agree with me and that's okay. But that is my belief, and I can't say