

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

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not nearly enough, not nearly enough. Because if we can put these where more Nebraskans can get at them, I'm sure that we can spend more than that \$200 million. Research of the Minneapolis Star Tribune in 1995 found that \$39,000 per month in welfare benefit dollars meant to provide food, clothing and housing for the poor are being withdrawn from ATMs located in, guess what, the casinos. And that shouldn't surprise anyone, because the people who are attracted to casinos tend to be people of lower income. They have this dream--I'm going to hit the lottery. The odds are only 157 million to 1, but I'm going to be the 1. And they've got this nitwit, or an actor playing a nitwit, called "Fate" on these billboards. I haven't seen one of them lately. You can't win if you don't play. No, you can't lose if you don't play. But we're going to have these casinos, they say. Who are...who is going to build the casinos? Well, the answer is construction companies are going to build the casinos. The important thing is, who's going to pay for them? You look at Las Vegas and you see these beautiful buildings, magnificent, ornate affairs lit 24 hours a day, and you wonder who paid for all these. Well, it's a special class of people that paid for them. They're called losers. The winners are the one that own the building and get the money from the losers. Then they put little of it back into the buildings. The problem is that the losers don't pay for it alone. They coerce others to help them pay. Who are these others that they coerce, that they force? It's their friends. It's their families. It's their community. What a wonderful benefit we can confer on the state of Nebraska by importing this cancer, by encouraging it--it's a good thing. We have debated this a number of times and one of the arguments is let the people vote on it. Let's see what the will of the people is. The will of the people is expressed in this body.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR TYSON: One minute?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR TYSON: The will of the people is expressed in this body. Thirty-five thousand of the million seven hundred and