

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

February 4, 2004 LR 11, 14

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Louden would move to amend Senator Schimek's amendment. (FA1448, Legislative Journal page 514.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Louden, you're recognized to open on FA1448 to AM2401 to LR 14CA. Senator Louden, to open.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members of the body. We've discussed gambling now for two years, you might say, been on the ballot or been trying to get it on the ballot. We've had petitions out there that haven't made it because of technicalities and whatever. At the present time, why, it looks like there's going to be something on the ballot in the general election for gambling. With the amount of money that's being put up for the petition drive, I'm sure it will be a successful drive. And I think we have to, if you're going to have gambling in Nebraska, if you're going to chisel it into the constitution and have it in stone, then I think it has to be kind of decided on how you're going to scatter it around the state. Are you going to have it and decided in one location? Are you going to have it in various locations? Are we going to decide as a Legislature what to do with it, or are you going to turn it all over to a committee so that we work on this whole situation again? You might wonder why...why put it in the constitution that we have to have it in certain areas or time zones or designate areas, and that isn't impossible to do. The Legislature has done that over the years, decided what areas something had to be in. So deciding where to have our gambling casinos or how many should be where, the amendment doesn't say you have to have any of them out there and west, but it does say that all of them cannot...wouldn't necessarily be in the eastern part of the state. When we had, on LR 11CA that we worked on last spring, they cut that down to the six principal meridians, I think, and then they got down into the township 13 and 14, and when you narrowed it down, why, that was set up in a pretty narrow area. That didn't get very far because it was cutting it down to the eastern one-fourth of Nebraska. So with this, why, I'd...I would urge whatever...I would urge you to consider this amendment for LR 14CA amendment and the amendment of Senator Schimek's, AM2401. So I would urge you to vote this amendment