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does have some authority over some of this kind of thing, but then he's giving counties, cities and villages, it looks like anyway, the ability to authorize the games of chance and what kind of games they would like within their own communities. You can take a look at it. My point is that I think there is a pent-up need out there...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...to let the people vote. I think they're telling us over and over and over and over again that they want at least the right to vote on this. And we had a petition drive last year that got enough signatures, was subsequently thrown out of the court. We have the veterans petition drive this year. We have that three-pronged petition drive that we've talked about some on the floor, and now we have a fourth petition. I don't think that we can shut it off. And if we can't shut it off, then we ought to take control of it, and I think the best approach is to use the approach that just basically lets the people tell us whether they want casino gaming in this state or not, and that's all that we want to ask at this time. I think the rest of it...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...takes a lot of time and research and effort.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Jensen, on the Loudon amendment, FA1448.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I don't think I need to, but I certainly will go back a little bit into the history of gambling in this state. Horse racing came into effect somewhere back in about 1934. We brought on the lottery in the early nineties with the Nelson administration. Certainly we've had Bingo, then scratch cards. Keno came into being, really not as part of this body, by looking at a law and trying to...finding a sliver in it, and then the proposals that we've had on casino gambling which, Senator Loudon, has been going on for at least nine years. And