

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

February 4, 2004 LR 14

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Louden, you're recognized to close on FA1448.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. The reason I introduced this amendment, FA1448, was to direct the facilities to all parts of the state. All of the state must be included when an amendment to the constitution is being considered. A gambling amendment isn't just about Omaha or racetracks, but it's the entire state must be considered. If a number is being considered for a maximum, they should be spread through evenly throughout the state. And the Mountain time zone is a precise area that covers the western end of the state. Gambling should be considered a business in designated areas, and boundaries should be decided by a business-type formula. By including three in the Mountain time zone, this would allow one on, like, Interstate 80, somewhere between I-76 and the I-80 junction. It would allow one for northwest Nebraska in the Pine Ridge area, and probably allow one to be decided at a future date by the market itself and how the demographics progressed from the front range area of Colorado and Wyoming. In the Mountain time zone, gambling will be considered as an opportunity to attract out-of-state tourism. The casino in northwest Nebraska will no doubt be promoted as a destination point to the area. Unlike riverboat casinos and casinos in metropolitan areas that cater to serious gambling, casinos in the Mountain time zone would be geared more for out-of-state clientele and tourism. As long as there's a set number in the proposal, I would adopting the...adopt the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. You've heard the closing on FA1448, offered by Senator Louden. The question is...Senator Louden, what purpose...?

SENATOR LOUDEN: (Microphone malfunction)...house and a roll call vote.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There's been a request for a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye, opposed nay. Record please, Mr. Clerk.