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public into voting it down. I thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you. Mr. President and members, I don't have any problem with this amendment, but I think that Senator Beutler's question is pertinent. I also think that if we start down the road, it was just like with Senator Louden's amendment. And Senator Louden, maybe I'm not as diplomatic as our Speaker. I didn't mean to leave the impression with you that I don't think there ought to be some consideration for western Nebraska. I just think that reality dictates that you're not going to get, probably, a major destination casino in western Nebraska, and I could be wrong. And that would be up to the western part of the state to try to decide. And the reason, Senator Louden, is that this bill is up before Senator Janssen's bill, frankly, is because we got to the Speaker's office first. The bills as they read now are pretty similar, actually. If you look at the Final Reading copy of LR 11CA, you will see that the tribes are not discussed in LR 14CA as they are in LR 11CA, but otherwise they're pretty much alike. And I think that we have found some common agreement over what we're trying to do here. There are lots of polls out there, some of them in Nebraska that say that the people of Nebraska would actually support having casinos by a two to one margin, and I don't think anybody could argue with that. The other thing that I should mention is everybody keeps talking about how there's no economic impact, how we don't get any revenues, this, that, and the other thing. Well, show me the proof. They just did a poll over in Iowa not too long ago in all those counties that have casinos. That was in November of 2002. And it was a referendum, actually, on casinos. And in 11 counties in which those...that polling was done, they indicated their strong reaffirmation and approval for continued operation of those casinos in their communities, from anywhere by 63 to 61 percent of the vote. I mean, that's a pretty strong reaffirmation of the idea in the first place. And they really...it says fully 70 percent think that their local casinos have had a positive impact on the economy and job market in their areas. So I think there's lots of evidence out there. I think, unfortunately, there's a few states that did it wrong, like South Dakota, like Colorado. And I would hope that we're