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afford it the least, and that's what really bothers me. I come from an area of the state that's not wealthy. And I hate to see those people who are struggling now get addicted to gambling and nobody is out there to...I mean, there's somebody, but depending on whose bill it is and how much they care about the public, how much they're going to...money they're going to spend to try to support those people who become addicted to gambling.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I brought up the subject of compulsive gambling because...and off the mike, I had a kind of philosophical conversation with Senator Smith and maybe he later on wants to talk, and so forth. And I, at one time, when I served on the General Affairs Committee, did not support the expansion of gambling. And I guess two things that affected my...to change my mind, the people in my district said they want to vote. They are spending money, the people in my district are spending money in the casinos in Iowa, across, very close to where I...where my district is. We will have compulsive gamblers regardless of the casinos. I think what has happened with the casinos so close to eastern Nebraska, the number has gone up. It simply has risen. Another factor is that I think with...I think about any issue can get on the ballot with paid petitioners. And if you spend money to get something on the ballot, are you going to just let it go? I think you're going to spend the money to have it get passed. Last year, when we had...there was a flawed one which the Supreme Court threw out of ballot, was that I went by a...I think it was a bowling alley or some facility, and they said, lower your property tax. And I thought this was another petition. But then I...after I did some investigation, it actually dealt with the gambling. They were saying it's going to lower property tax, and everybody will sign something that's going to lower property tax. And I don't know what the spin that the people that have the one that's going out now. If