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FLOOR DEBATE

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amended form with the eight casinos would make it through the Legislature and ultimately be adopted by the people, I think it's important to frame the discussion of what the options are for the Legislature. I believe it would be permissive in nature that the eight casinos would take place. And certainly I don't see where it says the Legislature must authorize. In fact, on page 1, line 14, subsection (2) there, it says, the Legislature may authorize...actually, that talks about the lottery. But then it goes on to say, on page 2, for the purposes of this subsection, casino gambling includes games of chance, and so forth, and nothing in the Constitution of Nebraska shall be construed to prohibit or restrict casino gaming as authorized by the Legislature at up to eight casino locations. Only the Legislature may provide for the operation, regulation, and taxation of casino gaming at such casino locations. So obviously, the Legislature would have the prerogative to establish the terms. And in fact, the Legislature would have the prerogative to not allow casinos at such time, even if the voters approved LR 14CA. I have a question for Senator Schimek.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question from Senator Smith?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Schimek, I know that you have stated in the past that you're not a real big fan of casino gaming. Is that correct?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I'm not...I don't care whether we have big casinos in this state or not, but I care whether the tribes have the ability to contact...compact with the state or not, and I've become convinced that unless you open up casino gaming to other entities, you're never going to get it for the tribes.

SENATOR SMITH: I see.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So I'm not in favor of unlimited gambling in this state. I think it would be ruinous.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Let's just assume then that casinos, at