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SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. Yesterday I was engaged in a conversation with Senator Mossey when Senator Smith introduced his amendment, so I didn't turn my light right on. And you know, perhaps that's just as well. Sometimes it's better to hear what other people have to say, rather than what the bill's sponsor might say first. And Senator Smith, I know that you had a number of questions that you asked yesterday. And I, at some point, would like to give you some time so that you can ask me some of those questions you were asking me yesterday if you want. But for right now, I would like to say that, to me, this would be the perfect bill, if we could have one casino authorized in our constitution. That would be perfect. As you all know, I've been doing this for four years and started out with just the ability for the tribes to compact with the state. No other casinos were even mentioned at that time. And then we grew a little bit and we said, okay, we need to do something to interdict those revenues coming in from...going out from Nebraska to Iowa, and so we should allow a couple of casinos within two miles of the border of Nebraska. And to me, that did make some sense. I do feel that we are losing a lot of revenue over to Iowa. And I believe that the people along those borders are already gambling anyway, so in that respect it wasn't an expansion of gambling. I'm somewhat like Senator Smith, in that I don't want just unlimited expanded gambling in this state. What I have come to realize during four hard years is that there is no agreement in this body about what the number should be, about what kind of casino operations we should allow, whether we should have racinos or casinos in racetracks, which are basically slot machines; whether we should have it at the community level. Although, I think the prevalent attitude in here is that we shouldn't have the slots in bars all across the state, that that would be the situation in which you could really find a lot of gambling going on at the local level on a daily basis, which wouldn't necessarily be so good. Anyway, my point is that I think there are huge differences of opinion in this body. And we are never going to get anything on the ballot to counteract what else is going on out there unless we just simply set a cap and come back and have the arguments next year. I don't see any way out of