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FLOOR DEBATE

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petition is coming out of Kimball, certainly we can visit that issue on how much state aid Kimball gets, and other cities. We have to treat them all the same, certainly. But if they're going to opt for gaming, casino gambling, that is, and slot machines, then we don't lose our ultimate authority...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: ...thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. We're discussing AM2599 offered by Senator Smith to LR 14CA. Further discussion, Senator Erdman, followed by Senator Schrock and seven others. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I was going to volunteer to let the gentleman speak because he's got some points about the computer but we're going to save that for them. I rise in opposition, so that everybody is clear, to LR 14CA--have been, will be, going to do it again tomorrow if it comes up, and I'll do it all the way through. I did rise in support of Senator Smith's prior amendment knowing full well, however, that it would have given us more than one casino. And I know that because I've been on the General Affairs Committee for four years and we've debated this issue since I've been there. Ironically, when we showed up to Lincoln this last legislative session, the committee was stacked to get any proposal out to the floor. So here we are. I think there needs to be a clarification, I think Senator Janssen misspoke earlier. He said that you could get paid to sign a petition. And I think what he meant to say was you could get paid to distribute a petition because it's against the law to have people paid to sign petitions, but it's not against the law to have individuals who actually are in the process of collecting those signatures be reimbursed for their time. So I think that needs to be clear so in case somebody looks back on this that they are not confused about what it is that we're doing. And Ray...Senator Janssen confirms that that was his intent. I do find it kind of intriguing one of the last comments that Senator Schimek made. And that was that we would create a foundation for this money to go into. And I happen to have a similar idea, and it would go