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FLOOR DEBATE

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tribal casinos, Senator Schimek. Senator Schimek, the statistics say right here that younger people tend to gamble at the tribal casinos. It goes on to say that women gamblers outnumber men, 52.3 percent to 47.7. I don't know why. But 45 percent of players gamble \$100 a day or less; about 22 percent gamble between \$100 and \$500 a day. Almost a fourth of all gamblers gamble between \$100 and \$500 a day. It says that those who gamble, Senator Schimek, about 22 percent gamble between \$100 and \$500 a day. I realize there's a lot of wealth across this country, but how much of society can truly afford, when they gamble, to gamble between \$100 and \$500 per day? And certainly the more convenient we make it, the more often that's going to happen. I mean, that's just logic. That's simple logic. So we need to look at the statistics. And again, about 34 percent are in the 31 to 50-year-old bracket, edging out the 51 to 64 group everywhere except at tribal casinos. I wanted to make that very clear.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: We, as Nebraskans, have done well without casino gambling. Yes, we have a budget shortfall, so does Iowa, so does South Dakota, South Dakota with even more pervasive gambling than we have...than Iowa has with the riverboats. We, as Nebraskans, can do better. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. It is 10:30. Speaker Bromm, did you wish to be recognized?

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. Yeah, we will...we will move to the Select File, 2004 senator priority bills that are listed, but I wanted to announce that the sponsors request we pass over LB 841, so you can make a note of that. And then I wanted to remind the body that it looks like the committee work and hearings will be completed by the end of next week, so we will be proceeding to full-day floor debate on Tuesday, March 2, in case there would be any question about that. And then we'll also continue the practice of working through the lunch hour on the last working day of the week and adjourning in the afternoon, early midafternoon on those days when we...when we complete the week. So with that, Mr. President, thank you.