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LR 14

presenting this as an option. I think it's reasonable and can be accomplished so that the body can move on and address some other issues. I want to be sensitive to that. However, I will not relinquish my right to propose amendments when I feel they're necessary. In fact, I pulled up...if the body is just curious about how many amendments are filed on a particular bill that we've already debated for a half a day, an entire morning this year, pull up LB 762, click on proposed amendments, and then compare the proposed amendments that I've offered on LR 14CA. That might just explain the scenario there just a little bit. But again, bracketing this bill until April 15, '04, that is the last day of session, but because it's a constitutional amendment it is possible to take the necessary action on that day, so it would not...this vote will not kill the bill. Does it make it difficult? Yes. But it will not kill the bill. And, Mr. President and colleagues, I urge a green light on this bracket motion. I believe that in the interest of time, this is a far preferable situation to spending several more hours of debate on Final Reading, should that be necessary. I'm not making a threat. I'm just saying what our options are, and our options are spending more time on Final Reading, if necessary, because I believe that this is a very important decision and one that is...the Legislature endorsing, because that's what it is. LR 14CA is an endorsement of perhaps eight, maybe only five, casinos across Nebraska. And it is, I believe, so important that we spend as much time possible debating this, and with legitimate issues. I'm not saying...just putting up a list of 25 or 30 amendments for each stage of debate. I'm saying these are real issues. Now I find it ironic that last week I proposed the opportunity to massage the numbers; it was rejected. I proposed the opportunity to have a local vote. It was rejected. I propose a renewal vote. It's being rejected; however, there has been some interest in the ten-year renewal. So certainly I think this is very reasonable. It's certainly very fair. Is it frustrating to spend some time on issues that we'd rather not spend time on? Absolutely. And I could come up with a long list of those. The body has done it. The body has endured it. And many people across Nebraska, all across Nebraska, large city to rural areas, have had to go without issues that they've wanted for a lot longer time than a group of people, a special interest group,