

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 8, 2004 LR 209

the question or cease debate. Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Debate does cease. Senator Landis, you're recognized to close on the committee...excuse me, this would be the committee amendments. Is that correct?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Right.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Janssen, I'd recognize you to close on the pending committee amendments.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, the committee amendments to LR 209CA, as amended with Senator Landis' amendment, does the following: After the payment of prizes and operating expenses, the amendment gives the first \$500,000 to Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund, as is the case currently in the statute. It then gives 44.5 percent to Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund, it gives 44.5 percent to education purposes, and 10 percent to the State Fair Board, and still 1 percent to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund. The amendment contains a provision that if the State Fair ceases to operate, then the 10 percent of the money goes to the General Fund. That would be it, and I will give the rest of the time to Senator Landis.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Landis, you have four minutes.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just where we are on this, this is the adoption of the committee amendment. Senator Chambers has two amendments that he's filed. One of them is...has to do with, oh, I think arguably, from his perspective, more appropriate places this money could be spent, and secondarily, the argument as to about the state lottery itself and the role of gambling in the state. So we have plenty of discussion ahead of us on the State Fair. The question is whether this is in an acceptable form. I would say that, in my discussion with Senator Beutler and with Senator Preister, the language could be better. Think Senator Chambers has indicated that on the floor. He's indicated a shortcoming of the language