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FLOOR DEBATE

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if only the Indian casinos would have had casinos and not bringing them into the picture. But my soft spot was for the people I was raised with and went to school with and still to this day have a real care for, so I would have supported the Native Americans over my job. In this case, I won't, and I have not. And that's why I've been voting not voting, because I thought, if nothing else, it was a conflict of interest. I have filled out a conflict of interest and put on there that I reserve the right to debate and that's why I'm speaking today. I do not, for the life of me, understand why we had to bring this back on the agenda anyway. Now I understand it's because 33 people said they wanted it. But the fact of it is we have over 20 priority bills that have not been heard, some of them that include life that I think are just as important, but we're going to rehash gambling. If we're going to rehash gambling, then I want to do what I can to make sure that the racetracks either get on there, which I understand may not happen either, and there's been deals made that that won't happen, or I can do what I can to vote no and to talk some of the you into not voting for this. I also cannot understand why the rural people would want to support only casinos in an urban area when the racetrack business is a rural business, even though the racetracks are in urban areas. It's made up of rural people who raise horses and they buy their feed from rural people, there's over 400 foals a year born in this state. There's over 4,000 jobs in the state of Nebraska to do...that are directly connected to racetracks or more. And people get up at 5:00, some of them 4:00 in the morning, they're out there working these horses. They've been here since before this was a state. It was the first gambling that ever took place in this territory, was horse racing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: But horse racing take...now will take a backseat without, as far as I can understand reading the bill, even have a chance to compete. We aren't even doing what Iowa did. They allowed slot machines at racetracks, and that's all the racetracks wanted. They want a chance to survive. LB 775 does not help them, but they've got over 4,000 jobs there. Why are we doing this, people? Nobody has told me why. Not one