

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 7, 2004 LR 11

at least the last time I checked it. It started out saying "only the Legislature may" and so if this gets to the ballot, I guess we'll have a second shot because it says the Legislature may. And for those who buy into this survey, poll, what have you, that is out there saying 91 percent of the people want to vote on it, let's put some logic into that. This is just simple logic, when the next question is, would you vote yes or no, and about half of the people said yes. But that's without the knowledge of where the money will truly go because other states have pointed that out and it failed. But we would have the issue to revisit next year. And I still plan to be around next year and I don't want to rub everyone's nose in that, but it's going to be a pretty tough process. So if you think just voting cloture and putting on the ballot is all, that's not the case. And I would suggest that if some of these ballot measures, these initiatives, would ultimately pass, the Legislature can still visit that through state aid to local communities who adopt it. Our state aid formula recognizes local resources. It doesn't really recognize Vegas resources. But when I hear that some people would rather have the legislative repropose casinos rather than initiative proposed casinos,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...I would say that makeup on a lady of the night certainly does not carry any disease. To somehow say that the Legislature proposing this is less damaging than an unknown number of casinos across the state, because that's what it is, and I understand Senator Schimek's position in stating that she speculates that it would be limited but there are and have been exceptions to that and I go back to that. Nebraska is in a somewhat unique situation with...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: ...what I believe...time?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time is up, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.