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FLOOR DEBATE

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made a proposal, left town, didn't even stick around for the community meeting to take question. Left town. Hired by the casinos, and probably went back to Vegas. They brought in another consultant for the other side, the coalition of businesses, economists, bankers, political moderates, political liberals. They brought in a consultant, who did a study, came up with the results, hung around for a community meeting, took the questions, took the darts from those who think that casinos are going to lower their taxes. For Pete's sake, how ridiculous. What kind of tax break did we get with the lottery? People voted for the lottery thinking that they were going to get a property tax cut. You can see the mischief that's taking place with the lottery dollars now. That's not just how the money is spent. The advertising has been controversial. The lottery ended up pulling a commercial that suggested that if you get out of bed in the morning, go play the lottery, it's going to be a good day, in a general sense. How ridiculous. And when people think, when they go to the polls and decide which one... I mean, it's a foregone conclusion, some would say, that there are all these ballot measures on there. Ask yourself the question: If the Legislature's proposal is the only one that's adopted and it paves the way for casinos, what have we done? What have we done? Ask yourself the question, why casino operators aren't offended by... call it an income tax, that's higher than someone else engaged in a different activity? No, they're happy with what they get. They're really happy with what they get. No, we want to be like Council Bluffs. We want to be like Council Bluffs. I come from the other end of the state. Yeah, people go up to a casino just into South Dakota a ways. I think it's probably 25-30 miles into South Dakota. I'm not sure how much that casino has improved that community. I'm not aware of vast improvements to that community. Some people have stopped going to Deadwood, South Dakota, because it's not the town that it used to be. There's the casinos, there's the slots, and all the information that goes with it, friends. There is the very real issue. And my desk is a mess here,...

SENATOR HARTNETT: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...but it contains a lot of information. And I can dig up some new information that states the same thing. Or,