

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 7, 2004 LR 11

SENATOR CUDABACK: About 11, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on AM3598, offered by Senator Louden? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. The question before the body is, shall debate cease? Have you all voted who care to? The question before the body is, shall debate cease on the Louden amendment, motion to return LR 11CA for specific amendment. Motion is to cease debate, simply put. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 6 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. Debate does cease. Senator Louden, you're recognized to close on your motion to return to Select File for specific amendment.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. As some of the discussion around...was going around, they were talking about wide open, we're putting it wide open. My amendment doesn't say anything about wide open. My amendment just takes the number off of the...out of the constitution. It takes a number that you're chiseling in stone. This is what you got to get rid of, is what you're going to chisel in stone. My amendment gives the Legislature...they can put any amount they want to. They can put it...they can start with one, or they can go zero, whatever the...whatever the feeling is at the time of that Legislature that's in session. This is something that would work for future Legislatures to be...have a viable tool that they could go ahead and control gambling. They could go ahead and do something with it. They could probably go ahead and use it for some type of economic development, if it was so desired. They could put them...they could look at the demographics at the time; five years from now where are the demographics going to be; where is the money going to be coming from. They could use it as a tool like that to put the casinos in wherever they thought would be the ideal place at the time. The business would decide how many casinos would come in. It wouldn't be us, sitting in the Legislature, snapping our fingers