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FLOOR DEBATE

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prop up some of the charitable gaming that I will say, yes, those revenues go to some pretty decent places? What are we going to do to prop that up? We can do so much better. I hope that our body will say no to a casino from Las Vegas, who is pounding us hard, who wants to come to Omaha. I hope that those whose convictions are that casinos are bad, I don't expect to convince those who think that casinos are good, but I know there are several members who believe, honestly believe, that casinos are not good in Nebraska, but feel that the petition is threatening. It's not. We do not neuter or neutralize the petition by doing what we're doing today. If anything, we're energizing it. We'll have a great public debate come November; yes, we will. Do we want to narrow that debate by voting red on this? I think that would be good. But if you want to broaden the debate, I suppose that could confuse some voters and ultimately they vote no on everything. That would be another strategy. But I think the best thing that we can do...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...is to vote red right now, take a unified approach and say that we've looked at the issues, we've studied the numbers and have come to the conclusion that (a) we're not threatened by the petitions and even more so we're not threatened by Council Bluffs. It is so interesting to see how Council Bluffs and the petitions are running this issue for so many...for so many of the arguments that we've heard, and just the new one yet today. We're an independent body. We're an independent state. We think for ourselves. So far, we have a policy that we have enough gambling; lottery, racetracks, pickle cards, and others, but there is a desire from those mostly outside the state...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: ...thank you. I urge your red light. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, Mr. President, I would withdraw my motion,