

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

April 14, 2004 LR 209

the way the sentence would read, beginning in line 22, "Ten percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Nebraska State Fair Board to be expended as provided by law" then you continue with the rest of the language. It would put in a specific authorization to the Legislature to dictate how this money that goes to the State Fair Board is to be spent. These are, and Senator Landis was correct to that extent, suggestions as to how better, tighter, and I'm adding more prudent language could have been put into the statute to show a bit of fiscal responsibility and legislative oversight. I'm not going to linger too long on this amendment because it has been discussed; namely, the idea of the fact that the State Fair Board is given this money with no strings attached, no conditions. The State Fair could be operated corruptly. Every member of the Fair Board could be found guilty of embezzling and be carted off to jail and the \$2 million will continue to roll in. Let's say that they are not venal, they're not stealing money. They're just stupid and they fritter away the money. The \$2 million will continue to roll in. Let's say they're not stupid, but they cannot come to an agreement so they reach an impasse and no money is spent because they can't decide. The \$2 million will continue to roll in. Do you all mean to sit here and tell me that if you appropriate a certain amount of money to the University of Nebraska system and come next year that money is not spent you're going to let them keep that money and you're going to appropriate that same amount at least again and stack it up again and again? Regardless of what Senator Landis may tell you, he cannot tell you that what I'm saying is untrue. I'm dealing with the language in this proposal and I'm emphasizing once again that priorities are skewed. This proposal should not be advanced by the Legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**SPEAKER BROMM:** Thank you, Senator Chambers. I see no further lights, Senator Chambers, you'd be recognized to close. You waive closing. Senator Chambers, you weren't intending to withdraw that amendment or...

**SENATOR CHAMBERS:** Oh, yes. Pardon me, I would like to withdraw