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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I have not really spoken very much on this bill. But I think at some point, probably, one needs to weigh in. And I would like to say at the outset that I don't have the same...I didn't have the same experiences as Senator Chambers had when he was a child. I, indeed, was taken hunting and fishing when I was a child, and I have some very pleasant childhood memories of that, going down to the old Republican River, which is now covered by the Harlan County Dam, a site just below town. Just south of town, I should say, (laugh) not below town, to be specific. And my dad and I and my sister would set lines and catch fish that way. We'd come back the next day and check those lines. And we'd also go fishing with our poles, but that was one way that we caught fish and ate fish. And it was a fun deal to do with my dad. He also, I remember, would talk my mother and sister and me into going out on a nice fall afternoon. We'd all pack sack lunches and we'd go out in the car pheasant hunting. And now that I look back on it, I'm thinking, was that a really safe thing to do? Because my father would send my sister and me and my mom through the rows of cornfields to scare the pheasants out. And I'm thinking, we were probably in front of him (laugh) when those pheasants flew out of the cornfield. But anyway, it turned out safely, and it was fun, and I have really good memories of that. And I, for one, would not dream of prohibiting those kinds of activities in this state. I don't hunt myself. I don't believe I could ever pull that trigger. Although I did learn how to use a shotgun. I had a boyfriend in college who thought I ought to learn how to do that. I don't believe I'd ever want to hunt. And I don't...I haven't gone fishing for years. But I know that those are the kinds of activities that a lot of people enjoy. And they are good family activities. However, I have told Senator Schrock that I can't vote for this constitutional amendment, because I feel exactly like Senator Chambers and others in this body do. There's no need to put this kind of language into the constitution. If there were a problem, maybe I could see that. But if there were a problem, I believe the Legislature would handle that problem. And I thought that Senator Brown put it very wisely this morning. And I would vote any time, Senator Schrock--and I've told you this--I'd vote any time to preserve that kind of thing in statute. But I won't vote to preserve it in the