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

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SENATOR McDONALD: Well, I think one of the things that we're dealing with here, a lot of this is...comes from more than just the lottery. Unfortunately, that's the only funds that we can try to get money from gambling, and we can't so we have to go to General Funds, but I would guess Internet gambling is part of the problem. I would guess that our Nebraskans going over to Iowa is part of the problem. I would guess that a lot of our young people, Texas hold 'em, we're advertising a lot of card playing and gambling on TV. So I think it's one of those things that it just continues to expand.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: I...you know, you have a little bit of an historical "perspect" here...respect relative to individual therapy, family therapy, group counseling and assessments. I would be interested to see them numbers as they correlate with the accessibility of gaming in our neighboring states. I suspect that the accessibility to gaming, particularly the more addictive styles of gaming, our border states may play a role in this. You had spoken earlier about some of the other states and particularly those that have the expanded gaming, the slot machines and casino style gaming. Are Nebraska residents eligible, Senator McDonald, to participate in those sorts of programs if it could be demonstrated that the problem gambling arose as a direct result of the casino-style type gaming that is not in fact allowed here in this state?

SENATOR McDONALD: Well, are you saying that if someone sees the billboard in Omaha that says 100...1-800-Bets-Off, if they're able to call that number and get help?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Your handout seems to indicate that...you use the state of Iowa as an example and indicate that they allocate over \$1 million for this...for these sorts of activities. My question would be, if a Nebraska resident could demonstrate that the onslaught of addiction occurred as a direct result of that style of gaming that's offered, for example, in Council Bluffs, can they use them services that are for...that are paid for out of the Iowa gaming monies?

SENATOR McDONALD: Absolutely not. If you're from Nebraska you cannot access gambling addiction dollars from Iowa.