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LB 332

encroachment on our state budget and it's going to impact it in the future, and I'm concerned about that and, therefore, I suggest that we not accept the amendment or proposal by Senator McDonald. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Jensen, followed by Senator Redfield and others.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I do stand in support of Senator McDonald's plea, and more so because of what we did in passing of LB (sic) 209CA, because what we set up is in the constitution, an agency that is untouchable, that we have no control of whatsoever. And any time that we have an agency that the Legislature does not really have any control of whatsoever, I think there's some real problems that can occur. And so we have set up through that constitutional amendment that here we have an agency that has the highest spending of any lottery throughout the United States going to advertising, and yet we cannot do anything about that. I was appalled a couple years ago when the ads that they had on there that implied that it was our moral duty to buy lottery tickets. I'm glad they've got away from that one. But then of all the other things that they promote, whether it be pickup trucks or whatever it is, and every evening on TV there are ads to go out and buy this lottery ticket. And, by the way, only...there are only winners that buy those tickets, that is the...what they would have you believe. But we do have problems. What is interesting about gambling addiction is that these are individuals who, prior to the gambling, were not involved in any criminal activity whatsoever, but because of an addiction that takes place they really cannot quit playing without some intervention. And we had one of the most interesting hearings before our committee where a woman who came in and testified that she was buying Powerball tickets at about \$500 a pop twice a week, and then she went from there into taking some other funds and, by the way, shortly after the hearing she went to jail. I think that's the first time I've had anybody come to a hearing that I was a part of where the individual shortly thereafter was incarcerated. She was a delightful woman who just got caught up in this, and now of course she thought the more she played the better chance she'd