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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Senator Baker and members. I think most of what I was going to say when I punched the light on has been said. But from the Revenue Committee's perspective, we did pass LB 1005 out on a 6 to 2 vote. And I think the compelling argument was what Senator Janssen talked about, is that we have invested about \$50,000 in setting up this checkoff, and now it's in place, the forms have been made and the actual redo of the computer software as...is done. And it would actually cost some to quit this. It is a voluntary thing, and if someone wants to donate a dollar to the State Fair, they can, or they don't have to. I believe that we'd actually cost us a little bit more if we would pull it off than if we left it on. That was a big incentive for me to be on the side of keeping this as a checkoff for our State Fair. The majority of the assistance now that comes to the State Fair from the state is that part of the lottery that went through the constitutional amendment a couple of years ago, and that is a difference than we've had in the past. But this is really a noncost for the state of Nebraska. It does put a line on our form, but it's in place. And so I'd urge the body to keep it, instead of taking the procedure of pulling it off.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Connealy. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Schimek, you're recognized to speak on the divided question. Senator Schimek waives. Senator Erdman. Is Senator Erdman on the floor? Senator Erdman is here. Senator Erdman, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. As I understand the process before us, the only way that we can remove the amendment that is before us is to vote it down, since it is part of the committee amendment, and so that is what...the option we have. Instead of voting down the entire amendment, which includes the two provisions, our option is to vote on the provision that Senator Cudaback has brought to the body and the legislation that originally went to the Revenue Committee. And then secondary will be the vote on Senator Schimek's amendment, which is the underlying bill of LB 1038. I, unlike some of the colleagues that have been cross-examined here this afternoon or this morning, did not vote for the constitutional amendment for the State Fair. I didn't