

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 10, 2006 LB 745

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Clerk, what motion do we have currently?

CLERK: Mr. President, when the Legislature left the issue, Senator Chambers had pending a motion to bracket the bill until April 11.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is a bill that deserves to die. It has no merit whatsoever. We just got through not too many hours ago processing a bill of Senator McDonald, which I support. Earlier, we had agreed to put before the voters a constitutional amendment to allow additional money out of the lottery proceeds to fight compulsive gambling. This is a type of lottery, a type of slot machine. It increases and expands gambling. It is the kind that is very addictive because these various activities can go on several times, several incidents, several events in a relatively short period of time. So if a person loses, he or she may be encouraged to wager again and yet again until he or she falls into a hole from which no emergence is possible. So I opposed this bill the last time we discussed it, I oppose it today. I have other amendments that I'm going to offer because this bill should die. Some of my colleagues suggested that I should just offer a motion to indefinitely postpone. But I think there needs to be some discussion so people can be aware of just how insidious this particular provision is and realize that the bill ought not to pass. If you look at the pink slip which we call a fiscal note, you will see the rapid increase projected in the amounts of money that will be realized from this gambling. There is no product sold as a result of these transactions. That money comes directly out of people's pocket where they gain nothing for sure in return except misery, frustration, and depression. These races, as we've had them discussed, although they're not defined in the bill, and to me that means the bill certainly cannot go forward, horse races that were run at a past date, all the horses are dead. Somebody knows the outcome of those races. But we don't know whether what is actually transmitted, however they are shown in this parlor where you waste your money, that these are actual