

obviously, from the discussions in this body and the votes previously on what this body feels about an extension or broadening of gambling in the State of Nebraska anywhere. But the Governor is going to be the party that negotiates on behalf of the State of Nebraska. The Governor has done that. In the past, the Governor did negotiate the tribal compact with the Omaha Tribe. That has already been done and let me just say one thing about the concern that's been expressed about opening up casino gambling off the reservation. There is some misconception that that is an easy process, that a tribe could walk in, let's say, for down at 72nd and Dodge and designate some tribal trust lands and open up a casino, that's simply not the case. There has to be an extreme amount of involvement by the city involved, wherever that may be located. It cannot be done ad hoc. It has got to be approved by the Department of Interior and, frankly, one of the requirements that would be a main requirement that the Department of Interior would have to look at prior to doing that would be whether the establishment of tribal trust lands within any city off the reservation was in the best interest of that city, not necessarily in the best interest of the tribe. So I think that the thought that that could occur and it could occur easily simply is not the case, and it certainly could not occur without the substantial involvement and, frankly, it would have to be determined to be in the best interest of the city or community, wherever it was located, if it was off the tribe. Let me just say one other thing. There is one issue of tribal sovereignty that we have not talked about. When you are dealing with Indian tribes, you are not dealing like contracting between two private individuals. You are dealing with a sovereign nation that has different rules to follow. That is why it is necessary to follow the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. All this motion and amendment does is take out the language in LB 231, which specifically takes off the table before the Governor has a chance to negotiate, takes off the table any Class III forms that are not permitted by Nebraska statutes. I think, if you read...if you read the case law at least in this circuit, that is a real problem. I think we end up in federal court. I think we end up in federal court with a loser case. I don't think that's where we want to go. I don't think we want to let the federal courts or federal mediator dictate the gaming policy in this state. I think the Governor ought to be the party that decides that. The Governor is obviously going to be more accountable in a federal court or federal mediator. The Governor will be accountable for any decision that the Governor