

vote on the motion to return to Select File.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 2591 of the Legislative Journal.) 26 ayes, 21 nays.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The motion is adopted. We are at Select File. Senator Beutler, for opening on the amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Just move adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Schimek, did you wish to address the amendment itself? Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members, I rise to oppose the Beutler amendment as it is proposed. The amendment says that the Legislature is going to have to approve, I guess, because it takes out the...strikes out from without approval by the Legislature, meaning that the Legislature is going to have to approve. What the bill does is it says the Governor gets to negotiate. I mean, who is the Governor? Take away personalities whoever may be in office, but they are the individual who has been elected across the state. They negotiate on a number of different things at the federal level on behalf of this state. They are not some "schmuck" who doesn't have the ability or understanding to deal with these kinds of issues. They have been elected frankly by 48 times the number of people any of us have been elected by and I don't know why they shouldn't have the ability to negotiate in this fashion. And I guess the argument, the best argument probably against the amendment is this, that you're not going to prevent casino gambling. If you think it's a casino gambling issue, this amendment is not going to prevent it. It may delay it, but it won't prevent it. The only way you prevent casino gambling is do away with all Class III gambling in Nebraska. Now if you're ready to pony up that vote, then go ahead and vote for this amendment. If that's what you think this is going to do, it will not. It will only delay it. I believe that Senator Hohenstein is absolutely correct in terms of the point at which you will then be at bad faith should the negotiations come to the Legislature and stall or be severely modified from that which was agreed to by the Governor. And I think that is itself the main reason for opposing the Beutler amendment. You are asking that the Legislature then take this issue and run with it after it has been negotiated, after both sides have walked away and said, here's what we will agree to. Or you will have no