

attempt to impose a precondition, there is no point in sending anybody to the negotiating table because if the Governor or his or her designee would decide to agree with the tribe that a certain kind of gambling falls within Class III gambling and it ought to be allowed on the reservation, it means nothing because the Legislature has already said if it's certain types of gambling that's going to be rejected out of hand. How can that be considered good faith? It's like management sitting down with labor and saying we're going to negotiate, but if you try to get better pension, we're at impasse right now. If you try to get better working conditions, declare impasse right now. These are the five things that although we say we're going to negotiate about them, they are nonnegotiable. That's what the Legislature is saying.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is nonnegotiable so if it's nonnegotiable and you're stating it in the law, not in the law on its face, but in the legislative history, how can there be good faith negotiation? It's impossible. I think Senator Beutler's amendment is ill-advised, ill-conceived and it ought not to be accepted. He was willing apparently to vote for the bill in its original form, the Final Reading copy, with the specific comment that the Legislature shall not have the power to ratify, but he woke up. And for that I want to take some credit.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Hohenstein.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, members of the body, I apologize that this is taking so long. Again, this stuff would have happened earlier but...are we going to ratify the contract between the Department of Revenue and the lottery, the company that manages the lottery? That's a 20 plus million dollar deal. You know there is some stuff in there that maybe we ought to look at. Maybe we're not satisfied with some paragraph in that contract negotiation. Maybe there's something in there that we don't...maybe we don't like the company. Maybe we ought to have a look at the financial statement of the companies that operate the Nebraska lottery. Maybe this body ought to get involved in some negotiations and maybe we ought to start talking about ratifying contracts between the State of Nebraska and certain companies that run gambling enterprises.