

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and maybe we will not have ratified more agreements along these lines, at least agreements we don't agree with. There are a lot of things I think that are compelling in terms of saying, yes, this amendment represents the way we should do things, yes, the Legislature should retain control.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President. I managed to stay out of this on General File, Select File and so far today and I sat as long as I could and I could sit no longer. When the comment was made that we've laid the legislative history here as to where we want to go and not go with the gaming industry, I wanted to set the record a little bit straight, at least from my part. Those who say they either favor or don't favor casino gambling, and that's where we draw the line, do not speak for me. And I don't think they speak for a lot of my 32,000 constituents. I think that merely has been a focal point of the discussion but it's certainly not where we're going to draw the line in any way, shape or form. Some of what I wanted to say has been said very well and I don't think I can improve upon that, but I want to reemphasize the point that Senator Beutler just made. I can paint you a scenario where we have a lame duck governor and I would, for the...I would trust our present Governor to negotiate this thing. But we can't see five years from now, ten years from now, but let's say that we have a governor like some of the other states in the Union have experienced who has little or no scruples and the people find out later that he had no scruples. And let's say that the individual does negotiate this thing in a way that is very unacceptable to the majority of Nebraskans and to our constituents and we have no recourse, it's too late. This mechanism will simply provide a bit of a check and balance, a bit of a check and balance and I don't think that's asking too much. You know I...we talk about casinos. Well I happen to be opposed to the kind of wagering that would be betting on which animal would survive the fight. You know there are all kinds of gambling that you can dream up and to say that we're going to excuse our responsibility and abrogate that completely to one individual whom we don't even know who it might be three years from now, I think is absolutely passing the buck in such a manner that it's unacceptable to me. Now when there was some legislative intent in the bill I was willing to let it go for now, but I'm kind of glad that we didn't. I'm kind of glad that