

out to everybody saying, I would vote against 662. I wasn't going to let the bill go by without my position being made known well in advance of the event and people know, any of them who had an interest, why I was opposed to the bill. When we had an amendment yesterday talking about adding a video slot proposition to a gambling bill, the sticklers for germaneness stood up and said it's not germane, it affects the bill too strongly, stop it. That was a political decision yesterday because people didn't like video slots, not a legislative decision. The failure to attack Senator Schmit's amendment when it was offered was not a legislative decision, but a political decision. The sticklers won yesterday by keeping the amendment from being offered. When they slept the issue on 662, another political decision was made and they won. Abraham Lincoln said, when you make a bad bargain, hug it all the tighter. This happens to be a prickly bargain and those who made it should hug it all the tighter. They should not ask those who had no part in it and who were opposed to it to come back now and pick up the broken pieces of the eggshells. If there were meetings among the Republicans about this bill, what's wrong with it? They meet about everything anyway. Democrats have meetings about issues that come before the Legislature. We would be naive, no, we would be dishonest if we pretended not to know that those things happen. And if something is evil about Republicans having meetings and something is evil about Democrats having meetings, the only pure one here is myself because as an independent I don't go to any meetings. But how many people look at me and consider me pure? I catch it from both sides. I'm going to watch what happens on this bill. The Governor was willing to take a gamble. Senator Johnson quoted the psalmist. Rudyard Kipling, a jingoist, wrote things occasionally that I thought were worthwhile and in one of his poems he said, if you can make one heap of all your winnings and risk it on one turn of pitch and toss and lose and start again at your beginning and never breathe a word about your loss. The gamble was taken. Whether or not it will result in a loss or a win will be determined by the vote that is going to be taken in a few minutes. I had talked strongly against a bill relating to a documentary tax stamp and everybody thought it was trivial and I agree and I told you at that point that the heavy stuff was coming up and that I would leave the heavy stuff to the heavyweights. That's what I said. This is a heavyweight issue. This is for the heavyweights, not for the lightweights such as myself who see an inequitable method of levying taxes