

April 2, 1980

LB 939

SENATOR MURPHY: Point of information.

SENATOR CLARK: Yes.

SENATOR MURPHY: How many votes does this take?

SENATOR CLARK: A simple majority of those voting. Record the vote.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 12 nays, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The motion carried. It is adopted. Now we will vote on the Warner amendment. Senator Warner, do you wish to close on your amendment? No closing, all right. All those in favor of the Warner amendment as amended by the Sieck amendment will vote aye, those opposed will vote nay but we will hear from Senator Murphy first.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well I am glad you said all it took was a simple majority because I think they are but to Senator Lewis who has suddenly converted the privilege of the people of this state at various locations to watch racing in something besides earmuffs and galoshes and he has now converted it to a revenue issue. It is the most money for the state and I am all for that and I will offer an amendment to put a progressive tax on racing so that once the tracks have accomplished their operational costs the state can truly share in the revenue. I mean that is what it is all about and I think that is the way it ought to be. Senator DeCamp would refer to the stacking of a court and I would tell Senator DeCamp, if I started with a seven man commission, John, I wouldn't think of asking for nine but I think we have gone far afield from the privilege of the people of this state to enjoy racing, not to have to witness it. I am in support of Senator Warner's motion and will offer my own later.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kelly, did you wish to speak on this?

SENATOR KELLY: I would. To bring to the attention of the Legislature, that thereabouts in 1935 parimutuel racing came into Nebraska and at that time fifteen cents was the amount of money that was returned to the county fairs and the cost to get in the track was twenty-five cents. Approximately one dollar to a dollar and a quarter to get into the track now, maybe it is two dollars but the Racing Commission, the three man Racing Commission was of the opinion that they were doing great yeoman service to the fairs of Nebraska by returning that fifteen cents and at no time did those