

February 27, 1981

LB 457, 136

Appropriation Committee to this committee. Therefore I move the advancement of this bill to E & R Initial.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the advancement of 457 to Initial. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Record the vote.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The motion carried. The bill is advanced. We will now take up 136.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 136 was offered by Senator Howard Peterson. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 13. It was referred to the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hefner, do you want to take the committee amendments?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I move the adoption of the committee amendments. But to explain the committee amendments, I think I should give you a little background on the bill and the original purpose of LB 136 as was introduced by Senator Peterson is to eliminate a statute which provides that the voters within a city, village or county may vote for or against allowing horse racing on Sundays within that community, if, if the State Racing Commission were to permit it. LB 136 establishes instead that the Racing Commission would approve an application for Sunday racing after it has considered certain criteria and, of course, what this would do is take away local control. And so the committee amended this bill and I will try to explain the committee amendment to you now. This amendment would provide for a countywide referendum vote and this could be held at any general state election to allow Sunday horse racing. The committee felt that since the local people voted to discontinue horse racing in Grand Island at Fonner Park, it would be only right to have the local people vote again at the general election whether to allow horse racing or whether not to allow horse racing. This amendment changes it to a countywide vote instead of just a city vote and I believe this brings the law into conformity with the rest of the