

if Nebraska played Oklahoma and we were in session I could go around this floor and get some bets on the game.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Your time is up, I'll bet. Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The one thing I want to indicate, Mr. Chairman, is that we are on a kill motion. I'm not speaking for the advancement now and I'm hoping you'll vote against, vote no on the motion that is pending before us.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, thanks. Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the reason I'm laughing, I told Senator DeCamp that Senator Chambers could go around this floor and get bets on whether this bill is going to pass or not. Five to one, John said. I am recalling last year when we decided that off track betting was to be eliminated and many of us that were here received many, many letters, I know I did, from people in my district and throughout Omaha that were using off track betting to...mostly the retired elderly people to walk over and place a \$2.00 or \$4.00 bet, and since then I have talked to some of them and very upset still that we got rid of off track betting and what they have to resort to now is something illegal, but they're having no problem whatsoever placing their bets with a bookie in the local barbershop or the local tavern or anyplace. And I think that keeping this bill alive and thinking very strongly of what we've done last year to the off track bettors and the people that cannot get to Ak-Sar-Ben or will not be able to go to Council Bluffs and bet on their horses, sometimes they spend the whole morning looking over the spread sheet or whatever Senator Chambers calls it because I'm not familiar with bookies or what they do. In fact I'm not familiar with any gambling outside of a pitch game or pass the ace game that I usually play with the family. When I do go to the races which is once a year, I don't know anything about horses so you usually bet my age or my birthday as many of us do. So I'm not familiar with any type of gambling, but I will say one thing, that it is being done and it is being done illegally. We should control it. We should tax it. We should license it and keep a steady hand on what is going on especially in Omaha. I don't know about the rest of the state. I believe that this bill is important. I think we should keep it alive and remember some of the things that we did last year. Thank