

me in a defensive posture, one in which I had to try to fight off a kill motion rather than having the opportunity to explain what the bill is about, my reasons for offering it and why I think you should vote for it. Such having been the case, a number of you had said you would vote to allow the bill to be reconsidered. The difficulty I am encountering this morning is that a goodly number of those who said they would support the reconsideration motion have not yet made it into the Chamber. I expect they may be somewhere in the environs. Senator Pappas, I am certainly glad that you are here. But persons such as Senator DeCamp, Senator Schmit and others that I know would support the bill, I don't see here presently. I can see Senator Hefner, my number one antagonist, whirling about in his chair checking his resources also. Yes, he is counting. I think it is clear from the presentation I am making now that I am trying to buy time. During the discussion of this motion I had hoped to have the opportunity to go into a few aspects of the bill which I didn't do the other day. But being very realistic, if the people are not here who had said they would support the motion to reconsider, my discussion of the bill may not accomplish that much anyway. I look at my good friend, Senator Chronister, and we have been through many good days and bad days together on the Judiciary Committee, and I don't think I even had his vote on this bill the other day. But what I am hoping is that you will give a vote to reconsider. The issue is a serious one. Some of you have had the opportunity to make a few inquiries in your district and other places and have discovered the tremendous amounts of money that are wagered on sporting events. There was one small town where a...it was not a scientific survey, but a rather informal inquiry was undertaken and it was discovered that on one of the better football weekends the 2 percent tax that would be imposed on gross bets would have brought in about \$40,000. Now that is not the amount wagered, Senator Hefner, that is the amount that would have been brought in under the tax. When you look at the large areas such as Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, and then some of the smaller areas such as Columbus and David City and other places, then you will understand that there is considerable money out there being wagered on sporting events. I have to be completely frank and honest with you and tell you that my main concern in offering this bill is not to raise revenue. I am not offering the bill primarily to raise revenue. That is one of the side effects, or if you want to call it a benefit, a side benefit of the passage