

on Sunday that we previously discussed. So I really find the bill probably very acceptable to me as per my original intent and also, like I say, the industry does support a bit of a change in our taxing structure for the larger tracks. So I would just simply request the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Next I have in speaking order is Senator Rupp, and then Senator Chambers.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. President and colleagues, I handed out a long sheet. I would like you to look at that, find it if you can on your desk, and I will explain briefly what I attempted to do with that. Before I go into that, though, I want to point out one thing for the benefit of Senator Chambers and Senator Marsh. Senator Warner also has some concerns about how this bill will affect the State Fair races. The committee amendments did address that. It is quite obvious that on Select File, and I would urge you to advance it today, we are going to have to divide these issues and talk about Atokad and Columbus in the one light, the two tracks that are struggling to survive, Ak-Sar-Ben and Grand Island, which hasn't been mentioned, in another issue, and the State Fair because we are tending to mix the five together and there is little similarity between the five really. So we are going to have to divide this issue on Select File and I know there will be considerable discussion. I hope you listened to Senator Miller describe the task force report and so forth because I think he did a good job, and I see Senator Dworak sitting over there now, in Economic Development, and I think it is appropriate he listen to this because how far would he go or to what lengths would he go to try to obtain a \$350 million industry for this state. The economic benefits are \$350 million for the state, but then, in turn, took all of the profits and plowed them back into the state in the form of benevolent programs and donations to various groups and so forth. I think he would go to either coast yet today to do that and that is what we have with racing in Nebraska. We have had a monopoly, so to speak, and the monopoly is now going to end when we have competition from Minnesota and Iowa and Missouri, as you heard described, so that is why we are looking at this issue and I think we have to take a long hard look and not just shrug it off as some evil gambling. We have enjoyed this industry and it has been tremendous for us. I won't go into great detail to describe why but I do want to address the Columbus races portion, just the