

business. You can do the same thing here. Now you can do the same thing that Senator Johnson does, which is the old emotional trick which I gave up using about ten years ago and I wish he would to, and that is you get up and you say, yes, you can be wined and dined up at the Nebraska Club by those lobbyists and for a dinner or two they are going to get your vote on it. Come on. Pick an industry, pick a business, pick a special interest that doesn't have lobbyists. That is what it's all about. They represent their groups on the outside to present us the facts. Whether they do it at the Nebraska Club or McDonald's is really kind of irrelevant, isn't it. The issue is whether it is right to do this particular amendment or not, and whether it is going to have adverse or positive financial impact on the state. I claim, and apparently the task force who studied it, which had people opposed to the whole thing, came up with this conclusion, unless we do something we are going to lose the quality horses, you are not going to have competing facilities, and you will in fact lose your tax base, which they keep warning about, you will lose your tax base if you don't make sure the industry is at least competitive with what is around the hook. So, calling Ak-Sar-Ben names and babbling about lobbyists and those things doesn't address the issue. The issue is whether this is a warranted tax rate change beginning next year for an industry that is under fierce competition and needs some funds to do something about it in the form of prizes for horsemen, and in the form of additional facilities. If you believe that you should support the amendment. If you believe that all gambling is evil and some how you can wipe it out, you should vote against it because I suspect if something isn't done you will wipe out or seriously wound that industry. If it crosses a certain line where it becomes second rate you are not going to be able to build it back probably without massive expenditures. It is an industry, right or wrong, good or bad, voted upon and improved by the public years ago. It is in existence. It is the single biggest taxpayer in the state. All I'm trying to do is to make sure it continues to be the single biggest taxpayer in the state. That is what I'm attempting. Senator Labedz.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Senator DeCamp. Mr. Speaker, I did want a full five minutes because I, too, stand very