

million dollars. That million dollars would be split evenly between prizes and repairs for the tracks. It would be pro rata, proportionately going to all of the tracks, not just Ak-Sar-Ben. Additionally, it would have Senator Chambers' proposal in there that the tax be paid monthly. The reason for this is we had the incident where the taxes didn't get paid and it caused a lot of problems. The third thing, it takes care of the Lincoln situation, gives them preferential treatment, quite frankly; maintains their 3.5 percent because they had some adjustments as a result of giving more days to Ak-Sar-Ben and this kind of thing. Of course, the final thing is it gives a \$7 million exemption. Now some people thought that was \$7 million of tax or cost. Not at all. It is just on this first \$7 million of gross handle. They don't begin taxing until they get above \$7 million. So that benefits the smaller tracks considerably. That is the special benefit for the smaller tracks. I guess, if anything, you could say the bill is designed to help all of the tracks in the track system, meet the competitiveness that is coming down. I ask you to adopt the amendment. I think it is necessary to meet the future.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rupp, then Senator Beutler, then Senator Schmit, then Senator Nelson, then Senator Labeledz. Senator Rupp first.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to oppose bringing this bill back from Final Reading for this amendment or any other amendment. I would like very much to have the bill read today. I think Senator Chambers overstated a case the other day when he said this was a pathetic, pitiful, miserable, little bill. It isn't really all that bad and it is a pretty big deal really to Columbus and Atokad. I am going to tell you today what I almost told you the other day when Senator Conway moved to pass over this bill last week. I wanted to correct Senator Conway because he said, my bill, my bill. It is our bill. You will note that my name is on there also, and, believe me, I was not just a tagalong introducer. As a matter of fact, I rummaged through the files and I found the research that my aide put together on this last fall. So I have a very sincere interest in this bill. I didn't oppose Senator Conway passing it over last week because there was a 12 up there on the board in front of us with days left in the Legislature. Now today with a 7 we pass it over. It doesn't come up on the agenda again until maybe there is a 2