

these things should be done on General File and Select File. And I visited with two or three of you last week where these amendments were at the early stages of debate and I think you all told me without exception that you hadn't heard anything from anybody until last week when the bill was on Final Reading and passed over. Ak-Sar-Ben does have a problem and they are looking at potential future competition. I want to impress on you that I have a stake in this bill because Columbus is not looking at potential future competition. They are looking at competition now, this summer.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR RUPP: And the competition is from Ak-Sar-Ben.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR RUPP: I will reiterate. We are running five Sundays at Columbus this year head to head competition with Ak-Sar-Ben and we can't compete with Ak-Sar-Ben very well. The numbers just aren't there. So they do what they have to do and I do what I have to do, and you will do what you have to do. I don't know how many of you have made commitments to bring this bill back, but I would just want to emphasize strongly that I think the bill should be read today as it stands. It is really not that big a deal in the grand scheme of things but it is to Columbus and South Sioux City a very important bill. Again, I would be the first one to lead the charge next year coming in with clean bills to take a look at the whole picture, the competition at Ak-Sar-Ben, and with the State Fair Grounds so we will know where we stand a little bit better than from a lot of different perspectives. So with that, I would urge you to oppose this and any amendment. Let's read the bill today. Let's pass it today and get on with the appropriations bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would certainly oppose this amendment also. And I wanted to give you a little history on this thing. This particular bill was not even approved of philosophically by the Revenue Committee, couldn't get out of the Revenue Committee. And certain people representing