

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, please, then Senator Landis.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, I would ask you not to reconsider. In fact, I would ask you to go ahead and have the normal vote that we would have at this time to either adopt or reject the amendment. And I would say some things along the line that Senator Chambers said, but they would be in a little different direction. Senator Chambers, basically, said, don't be intimidated, or words to that effect. That was his meaning, don't be intimidated "by Ak-Sar-Ben". And he suggested that somehow be concerned about the little tracks, not Ak-Sar-Ben. I would caution you, don't be intimidated by any individual. If you believe the amendment is appropriate, vote for it on its merits, based on the argument and discussion of the issue itself, not because somebody promised they were going to do this or threaten that. Stick with the merits. Are the merits there? Let's talk about the little tracks. Is anybody so foolish to believe that you will have little tracks surviving in this state of any significance, whether it be Lincoln, Senator Wesely, or anyplace else, if you destroy Ak-Sar-Ben? That's silly. That's silly. You have got to have a quality system and the smaller tracks are, if anything, the feeder tracks, the ones that give some others that might not be able to compete at Ak-Sar-Ben their chance to be in competition, their chance to be in the business, their chance to move up there. Sure it is the biggest track, just like IBM is the biggest in its particular industry. Do you think that wiping out IBM somehow makes everybody else better? Not really. As for the competition aspect, that's what it is about. You have got a whole new element of competition and whether Ak-Sar-Ben duplicates the efforts of the others or not isn't the question. It is a question of whether they have the resources and the competitive edge to at least make their choices, whether that be in the form of better prizes, better facilities so that they can bring more horsemen to the track, that is the issue. If you think the amendment is bad and that somehow you can punish Ak-Sar-Ben and benefit the state, then you are living in that fool's paradise of "we are going to cut off our nose because, by God, we are going to get even with our face". That is what you are dealing with. The amendment deals with the Lincoln situation and their special problems. It deals with the future for the racing industry