

with our budget next year already, not because what we have done this year but because of what we have already put in the law in previous years which we are deferring and moving back into next year. Now we are going down to the revenue side and we are crossing off revenue sources. It is possible perhaps to escape a tax rate increase this year on a general level. Will it be that as well for next year? Should we continue to mark off revenue raising measures like parimutuel tax? I doubt it. This is an unproved need. This does not destroy Ak-Sar-Ben. I, for one, am willing to forego whatever favoritism there might be for Lincoln in this simply because it is packaged with an unacceptable principle and that is to cross off revenue sources for coming budgetarily very tight years without demonstrated clear need. I support the amendment, or I support the motion to reconsider.

SPEAKER NICHOL: I still have eight lights on and I am not sure that my order is correct, but will take it in this order. Senator Wesely, Senator Hall, Senator Beutler, Senator Hefner, Senator Labeledz and Senator Hartnett. So Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, as you saw the handout from Senator Conway and Senator Higgins referred to it, you would think that this amendment was really only geared toward Lincoln and we do have a problem and we appreciate Senator Conway's concern and Senator DeCamp's concern. But unlike the characterization given to it, in fact, of Senator Higgins and others, out of the six Lincoln Senators, four Senators voted against it and two were for the amendment because we are in need of assistance and we have another amendment which cuts from 5 to 4 percent the percentage of tax on the State Fair which would, basically, have the Lincoln race track paying the same tax this year as they did last year, unlike the bill as it presently stands. If you look at the fiscal note on the bill, the only race track that goes up in taxes is the State Fairgrounds. Everybody else goes down anywhere from \$41,000 to \$300,000. And so we are the only race track that goes up in taxes and we feel that we want to hold harmless, basically. We don't want, well, at least the Lincoln Senators don't want a tax break. We just want to have tax equity so that we don't have an increase in taxes when everybody else is getting less taxes. So we have a separate amendment to do that. This amendment though that deals in