

would allow the piggybacking of the Ak-Sar-Ben measure on their own very worthwhile bill. You know even a mule, otherwise known as a jackass, can get overloaded after a while and you might be awfully careful about how much of a burden you place upon the back of this one little pony. There comes a time when it can't carry the load. I think that...in summary I want to say this. Number one, the handle will go up, it will not go down. Number two, if it goes down, it will go down because the management has decided not to meet the competition, not to be alert, not to do those things that are necessary to keep their clientele. Number three, if it goes down, and if Ak-Sar-Ben and any other track comes back to the Nebraska Legislature and begins to get their dipper into the taxpayer bucket...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...then I would suggest that at that time I'm going to come back to this body, if I'm still here, and oppose the type of legislation which you have before you here today. I don't like the automatic trigger that Senator Johnson has in this bill, but I know that the die is cast, I know the votes are here. I do not want to take a lot of time because I think it is futile to do so and I understand that, but I'm going to suggest that if that happens that I will be back at that time and try to restore the legitimate 5 percent tax. I installed that from 4 to 5 in 1973 for a legitimate purpose, that purpose to oppose the drug abuse problem in Nebraska.

SENATOR HANNIBAL PRESIDING

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Fifteen seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I'm going to ask at this time to withdraw my amendment and I will have some questions on the bill as it proceeds. Thank you very much.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Before we go any further I'd like to announce that we have guests in the north balcony today, guests of Senator Eret. They are 75 women, I believe, from the Saline County Extension Service. Welcome to the Legislature. We're back on the committee amendments. Next in the speaking order is Senator Conway.