

Senator Vickers voting no. Senator Hartnett voting no.
Senator Wesely voting no. Senator Miller voting yes.
Senator Hall voting no. Senator Withem voting no. Senator
Chronister voting yes. Senator Morehead, you had voted yes,
Senator, oh, changing from yes to no, excuse me. Senator
Smith voting no. Senator Nichol voting yes. Senator Labeledz
voting yes. Senator Marsh voting yes. Senator Scofield
voting...changing from yes to no. Senator Baack changing
from yes to no. Senator Barrett voting no. Senator Lundy
voting no. Senator Lowell Johnson voting yes. Senator
Pirsch voting no. Senator Goodrich voting yes.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 16 nays to cease debate.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: The motion fails. Debate has not ceased.
Next in the speaking order on the committee amendments is
Senator Vard Johnson. The call is raised.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I think the issue in the committee
amendments is one that Senator Schmit alluded to earlier
when he discussed his amendment which was to simply leave
the parimutuel tax rate at a constant 5 percent. Senator
Schmit said that it was his opinion that we would not see a
sustained decline in the parimutuel handle of the race
tracks in Nebraska. In fact, it was his opinion that
increased gambling in other states, and I suppose
particularly across the river in Iowa, would ultimately
result in increased gambling in Nebraska. So Senator Schmit
doubted that the Nebraska Legislature needed to effect any
reduction in the parimutuel handle. I think the Revenue
Committee seriously considered that type of argumentation.
This is not the first year that the Revenue Committee has
heard from the racing industry with respect to its fears of
a decline in the parimutuel handle. In fact, last year the
Revenue Committee heard a somewhat similar measure and
during the course of the public hearing the racing industry
brought in the Killingsworth Services out of Cambridge,
Massachusetts, as I recall, that essentially provide a great
deal of expertise on sports betting and gambling.
Killingsworth is of the opinion that Nebraska's racing
industry will suffer a sustained decline in parimutuel
handle over the next several year. It's of that opinion
based on experience in other states. It's also of that
opinion based on the increased levels of gambling operating