

of the bill. It was a clean bill originally that would have allowed for those people who decided they wanted to bet at race tracks to help to support their own industry. And as such, that was my reason for supporting it and now with the committee amendments which would allow for a tax break when receipts fall below a certain percentage level, which could in the end result in a decline in revenue to the State of Nebraska, I'm having a real time being able to support this bill. So, I at this time don't know exactly how I am going to go on it, but I want it in the record that this is not what I would have supported as a sponsor of this bill and I'm not sure that I'm going to be able to support this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Smith. Next to speak is Senator Pirsch. Excuse me, Senator Pirsch, I'm sorry, I passed up Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Question.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. The question is to cease debate. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 8 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Debate has ceased. Senator Johnson to close on the committee amendments.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I am offering at this juncture the committee amendments. I hope they have been adequately explained on the floor. Again, the committee is extending the number of race days at Columbus. The committee amendments are increasing the allowed takeout from exotic wagering at the tracks. The committee amendments will commit a portion of the takeout to a subsidy, a true bona fide, honest to goodness subsidy to our quarter horse tracks and our small tracks and the committee amendments will effect a tax rate reduction in the event that a track's individual handle declines below its current level. It is conceivable that these amendments can ultimately cost the State of Nebraska a revenue loss of about 1.5 million. Now, it's kind of easy notwithstanding in the great and enormous power of Ak-Sar-Ben to kick it around. It's kind of easy to