

February 18, 1992 LB 1061

We do need to understand the ramifications of this and the need for this. I think we've had a good discussion this morning. And, primarily, because I certainly don't want to carry one of Senator Hall's amendments as it goes down, I would withdraw that at this time. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Will. Are there further amendments on the bill?

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Elmer would move to amend the bill. (Elmer amendment appears on page 875 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Madam President, some of the comments made by Senator Schmit relative to environmental assessments of the property that Ak-Sar-Ben has been operating peaked my interest. And having some personal experience with environmental impacts and impact statements, I thought it might be appropriate for any agreement that is entered into between the people of Douglas County and some operator of the track that they be protected by requiring that the application have an environmental assessment of the facility and property as part of an agreement, so that if there were some environmental problems on the property that the origin and the time that the problems originated could be more easily pinpointed, and thus protect the people from some unscrupulous behavior or poor management of applications of fertilizers, or pesticides in the central areas, or around the lakes, or in some of the areas that are grassed or open ground. But, in visiting with some of the people that have been interested in this, they say that every single year, annually this has to be done. So, I think what I'll do is look into the statutory arrangement that allows for horse racing and see if the property changes hands or changes ownership that it might be more appropriate to word this amendment and put it in, in a little different manner so that an environmental assessment wouldn't have to be made every year, every time an application is made to the Racing Commission. So, thinking about having to do it every year and how costly it is, I think that we better withdraw that amendment at this time.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Is there anything further on the bill, Mr. Clerk?