

(Start of Belt #1)

CHAPLAIN: Prayer.

SPEAKER: Roll call. Have you all recorded your presence? The clerk will record.

CLERK: A quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Are there any corrections for the Journal, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: None, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Are there any petitions or memorials?

CLERK: None, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Any notice of Committee Hearings or Reports?

CLERK: Mr. President, there are some communications from the Executive office. Read. That is all, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Is there anything further on the clerk's desk?

CLERK: Committee reports. Mr. President, your committee on Enrollment and Review-Read.

SPEAKER: Senator Burbach.

SENATOR BURBACH: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, I do have a very serious problem this morning with LB 76. I do not see Senator Schmit, the introducer, here at the moment. LB 76 is on General File. It does have the Emergency Clause on it. We did vote it out of committee, but it was down the line on General File. It has not been discussed at the moment, yet, but if we want to increase the pari-mutuel tax, we must move that bill today, have it over on final reading tomorrow, and then read it Friday morning because I had a call from the Grand Island race tract and they don't know how to set their machine on the 14% or 15% handle, but I have visited with Mr. Brown and he indicates that if this body takes immediate action that it can be on Final Reading and read Friday morning and signed by the Governor Friday morning. Then the entire racing season will be adjusted to the 1% increase in the tax which is necessary, but more important or probably equally as important, the race track must know how to set their machines today. I am certain there is no problem of its passage and I am certain there is no problem with the Governor signing the bill immediately upon his receiving it. So, I would like to this morning sometime take up LB 76. I, also, am going to ask to be excused this forenoon, but I would be hopeful that this body would...

SPEAKER: Senator Burbach, in your best judgment is this bill.. will it be controversial before the body.

SENATOR BURBACH: I am certain that it will not be. It will be an increase and at the public hearing, there was no opposition. Even the tracks supported the increase and I can envision no problem here in the Legislature that would hold up the bill and would hold us up from collecting the tax immediately upon the starting of the racing season which is next Friday afternoon.

SPEAKER: Well then, Senator Burbach, let me ask the body if there is any objection to taking this bill up right now. It is the prerogative of the speaker to do this, but you have the right to overrule me. I am sure that Senator Burbach knows what he is talking about and let me ask you if there are any objections to taking this matter up right now. Then, we will go back to Final Reading and then follow the usual procedure. Now, do you have any objection to that, Senator Burbach?

SENATOR BURBACH: No. No. That would be fine.