

vote on the advancement of LB 667A. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance 667A.

PRESIDENT: 667A is advanced. We will move now to Special Order.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 154 was a bill that was introduced by Senators Conway, Hefner, Rupp, and Goll. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 14 of this year for the first time. It was referred to the Revenue Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are Revenue Committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vard, Chairman Johnson, for committee amendments.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, this is a fairly simple bill, I think, and the committee amendments are relatively straightforward. Senator Conway brought to the Legislature I believe along with Senator Hefner and maybe some others, I am not sure if I am giving the correct attribution yet, a bill that would in effect eliminate a sunset provision that is currently in our tax law on a favorable treatment for some race tracks in Nebraska regarding the parimutuel tax. We have had a couple of tracks in Nebraska that had a hard time paying the parimutuel tax because they simply have not had quite the crowds, quite the handle that they had anticipated, and as a result both Columbus and Atokad have a couple of years ago, frankly, had to be bailed out by Ak-Sar-Ben so they could pay their tax bills, and because they got bailed out by Ak-Sar-Ben so they could pay their tax bills, this Legislature provided some favorable treatment to those tracks in terms of the parimutuel tax. Anyhow, Senator Conway brought in a bill to continue that favorable treatment to the tracks, to these small tracks indefinitely, and after he brought the bill in, Governor Kerrey decided that the race tracks and the horse racing industry ought to be carefully examined because he had been hearing that the increased competition that the tracks were facing from the dog tracks over in Iowa, the potential competition from the dog tracks in Iowa, and from the potential horse tracks in