

February 17, 1993 LB 80, 471

SENATOR CROSBY: All right, thank you. I'll just close on the bill. A lot of things have been said, and I want to say a couple things. For a minute I thought I was on LB 80, the oh-eight bill, Senator Chambers. You had me a little confused when you were talking about drinking and racing and so on. One of the things that this bill does is recognizes the principle of supply and demand. And Senator Schellpeper has brought that out, that as it stood, with the 90 percent rule, sometimes...and you had to race between February and November. If two races...if two tracks are racing at the same time, that's not economically feasible for either track. Now, I'm normally against gambling. I'm not a person who goes out and I'm voting against the lottery and some other things. But horseracing is a little different because, as I said before, the beauty of the horse, and that relationship between the jockey and the horse, and the race itself is very important, whether you bet or not. And years ago I used to have a little card on my desk that said, horse sense is what keeps horses from betting on what people will do. Well, I still believe that, because for me it's a little senseless to go out and spend your whole pay check hoping that one horse will come in, in a race, and bail you out. But from a recreational point of view it has...racing goes way, way back, historically. And so I did bring this bill primarily for the Lincoln Fairgrounds Racetrack, but all the other tracks and the horsemen, of course, have agreed to this. And I do think it's a logical bill. We do have so much competition for the gambling dollar these days that it is very important that the racetracks remain strong. A lot of people enjoy it. And I just feel that we need to keep it strong and see to it that only one racetrack races at a time. And as far as bingo and so on, Senator Chambers, I'll just say one more thing before I close. I'm a strange Catholic, I don't like bingo and I do like fish. So, there you are. You see, we all have differences in the way we approach things. And so I'll just ask you right now, you've heard Senator Will and Senator Schellpeper, and as Senator Schellpeper says we still have a little ways to go on some ironing out of all the agreements on this bill, but at this time I would appreciate your vote to move it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. We will now vote on the motion to advance LB 471. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Madam President, on the advancement of