

support an increase in the...in the tax, as anticipated under current law. LB 65 (sic) would simply be a bill that maintains the status quo as far as the tax levels go for parimutuel racing in the State of Nebraska. With that, if...without going into a whole lot more detail, I would certainly be glad to answer any questions anybody might have about the bill, otherwise I would simply ask for your support to advance LB 365. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in support of this bill, and why not, it is my priority bill. I need to tell you just a little bit why I prioritized this bill. I've worked on the Nebraska thoroughbred racetracks for the last three years and going on my fourth year. We have over 8,000 people in the State of Nebraska who depend on horse racing for their livelihood. Horse racing employs ten people for every one person that all the other gambling hires. Horse racing is the only sport...gambling sport that we have in the State of Nebraska that legalized that is a spectator sport. It is without a doubt one of the areas that I have come to love. And this bill will help both the racetracks and all the people in the State of Nebraska that are involved in the horse racing industry. I urge your support in the advancement of this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Fisher.

SENATOR FISHER: Mr. President and members, I rise in support of this bill and ask that you would vote to advance it. As we all know, the market share has changed on horse racing and gambling in Nebraska, and they do need that relief to continue their successful venture. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Fisher. Any other discussion on the advancement of LB 365? Seeing none, Senator Will, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WILL: I would simply move for the advancement of LB 365 to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard the motion to advance LB 365. We'll now vote on that motion. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the advancement of LB 365. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.