

you to vote for the suspension of this rule because I feel that not only will it help Atokad in their racing season this coming year, it will allow them to have a racing season, but also it helps to keep ongoing the 4-H groups that have been meeting there. We would also be able to continue the area beef and dairy show and many other civic functions. I think Senator Schmit would like to talk just a little bit and so I will yield the rest of my time for him. But I do urge you to vote for the suspension of the rules.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit for the rest of the close.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I echo what has been said earlier. I just want to reemphasize what Senators Hefner, Goll and VonMinden have said here many times, racing is a statewide sport, one which was intended to promote the thoroughbred breed and not necessarily to just place all of the racing in one particular area in the state. We need all the tracks in Nebraska. Senator Dworak attempted to emphasize that by an amendment to LB 631, and although it was not accepted at this time I want to point out that the problems of the small tracks in Nebraska, particularly Atokad at South Sioux City, Columbus track and the Fonner track are not over, and I hope that in years to come we will view each of those tracks in their own right and their own problems as they come up before this body and address them in an equitable and fair manner.

PRESIDENT: The question is the motion to suspend Rule 8, Section 5 to permit voting on Final Reading of LB 631. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. It requires 30 votes. And I remind the body, you are on Final Reading although it doesn't look like it. If everybody would...every member would return to his or her desk so that we at least give some appearance of being on Final Reading. We are on Final Reading. Record the vote.

CLERK: 38 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to suspend the rule.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries, the rule is suspended, and, Mr. Clerk, you may proceed to read on Final Reading LB 631.

CLERK: Mr. President, before I proceed, Senator Dworak had an amendment on page 990 of the Journal that I understand he wishes to withdraw.