

in through there. Secondly, the daily license fees paid by race tracks are increased to provide additional funding. And the population for each class is adjusted to address an inequity between Fonner Park and State Fair Park. In addition, the amendment proposes daily license fees for interstate and intrastate simulcasting. You have a handout, number 2, which shows the current daily license fees. You see what they're paying now and the proposed daily license fees under this amendment. In essence, it breaks...tracks in counties with populations between 40,000 to 300,000 will pay \$50 per day more and tracks in counties with populations under 40,000 will pay \$20 more per day. Basically, there was an inequity between Fonner Park in Grand Island and the State Fair Park, as I have already mentioned. Fonner Park and State Fair Park have comparable handles. Actually, Fonner Park takes in more handle than State Fair Park does. Yet due to the 1990 census, State Fair Park will pay \$400 per day and Fonner Park will only pay \$30 per day in license fees. So to address this inequity and to bring in the dollars that they absolutely have to have in order to continue, the population classifications have been adjusted to place Fonner Park and State Fair Park in the same class which would pay \$150 per day. These changes to the daily license fees would become effective January 1st of 1992. And, as I have mentioned, we do propose an interim study to look at the Racing Commission statutes in relation to the regulatory responsibilities which we have placed on them and funding in order to find a long-term solution to the Racing Commission's funding problems. As I said, this did not have a public hearing and I have to also tell you that they did bring this issue to me as a concern, as Chairman of the committee, and I said I'm not handling it, give it to somebody else. And they didn't give it to somebody else or somebody else wouldn't take it, I don't know which. And then they did bring the issue back up again to me in the last few weeks and, finally, I sat down and visited with them and it took us quite a while one day last week and I then saw the need for doing this. I will try to answer any questions but I'm saying to you that I don't think we have any choice in this and I would ask for your support in this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, reluctantly I would need to stand to question the germaneness of this amendment. The bill, itself, deals with the commission's powers to prescribe and