

Senator Jenny Robak told me make it like myself, short. Well, she didn't say it quite like that but she said make it short. This is an amendment, a copy of which is on your desk, and when I put it on your desk it was to be an amendment to Senator Hall's amendment. Since he withdrew his, it now goes to a page in the green sheet and what it says is that nothing in that section of the Constitution that is under consideration would prohibit the Legislature from enacting laws to license and regulate wagering on sporting events. I had offered legislation like this before and the last time I offered it, it had 23 votes. This is an activity which is engaged in throughout the state by all levels of the population. Wagering on sporting events occurs at the highest levels of state government. The Governor of Nebraska will routinely make a bet with the Governor of whichever state the school that Nebraska will play in the Orange Bowl or whichever bowl it is. They routinely wager on the event. Mayors of cities do it. Ministers do it. Doctors, lawyers and those who are sinister do it. This is one of those activities which are so widespread throughout the society that even though it is supposed to be illegal, law enforcement makes no concerted effort to enforce the law because it cannot. There have been sheriffs in the past, police chiefs who have talked to the senators about the wisdom of legalizing sports betting so that they don't have to waste person power in a charade of pretending to enforce those laws which make it illegal. This industry is a multibillion dollar industry throughout the country. It is a multimillion dollar industry within the State of Nebraska. There is no way that it can be annihilated. So what this provision would do is erase any question about the Legislature's power to enact laws that would regulate and license this activity. I already have a bill drafted which I would not attempt to offer this year and the people would have an opportunity to vote and I'm sure that in the same way that a large percentage of the population engages in sports wagering at one level or another, a substantial majority of the voters will support this proposition. Voters are deemed to be intelligent people and in order to engage in sports wagering you must be intelligent. All intelligent people at some time or other in their life will engage in sports betting. During the baseball season there are what are called baseball pools where I think you select a number out of a cup and if that's the number that the score equals at the end of the game, you win. I would never advise anybody to bet that way or to bet on a baseball game. If you bet on football you can study the history of the two teams if you put a little time into it. Then you increase your