

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm sorry. I didn't hear you. I'll finish when I get a chance.

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

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, once again Senator Chambers I think has done a good job explaining the mechanics of the sports wagering industry. Frankly, it's a measure that when it has been brought in bill form I have been supportive of it in the past. Were it brought as a constitutional amendment standing on its own, I would probably be supportive of it again. My fear with this one is the same fear I had with the original Commonwealth amendment that was brought to this bill on General File and that is when you start mixing issues together and there is one simple yes or no vote on a series of issues that are intertwined, you run the risk of losing your entire issue. And I know to Senator Chambers that would not be a great tragedy to have the state lottery proposal be voted down by the voters. I support a state lottery. I think it's something that the citizens of our state through expressing themselves in public opinion polls, in letters to the editor, comments that they made, other forms have indicated that they would like to see, they'd like to see us have a statewide lottery. For that reason I am not going to be supportive of amendments that run the risk of diverting the public's attention to nonrelated issues so...well, I think Senator Chambers has done is usual excellent job in enlightening us on how one of Nebraska's greatest growth industries is operating, I will not be supporting placing it into this constitutional amendment.

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

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I did not want to have to stand up and talk against Senator Ernie, but Dan Lynch told me somebody has to do it. So, Ernie, can I ask you a question, please? Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR SMITH: First of all, Senator Chambers, very briefly, would you tell me where this fits? Does it fit in the green copy? Are you...because the other one you had was amended to the Hall amendment.