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SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, I will be as brief as possible. This is sort of the "Bride of Frankenstein" amendment number two. I offered an amendment on the keno lottery bill, LB 795, which was known as the "2 percent amendment". This amendment would take 2 percent of the lottery proceeds to be deposited in the Thoroughbred Racing Assistance Fund. This would help supplement purses in Nebraska. Twenty-five percent of those supplemented purses would go to Nebraska-bred thoroughbred horse races. The funds would be distributed same as they were under the keno lottery bill on a proportionate percentage of the live racing handle at each of the Nebraska thoroughbred tracks that are located here in our state. That's the extent of the amendment. As I said, there is really relatively no difference between the 2 percent amendment that we offered to keno and this particular amendment. Again, the same arguments can be made on the floor for this lottery bill as it was on the keno, that as we proliferate the extent of gambling in Nebraska to other areas it has a direct negative impact upon the thoroughbred horse racing in Nebraska and, in order to help supplement purses from the loss of the handle, this amendment would help generate additional money for purses, so I would move the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Discussion on the amendment by Senator Rod Johnson. Senator Hall. I don't see Senator Hall right now. I'll go to Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, I'll make this very brief. I too support the amendment for the very same reasons as we did on the keno. There are only so many gambling dollars available and the horse racing industry not only provides something for people who want to gamble but it is an entity and a lot of people who are employed. Some of the towns, that's the basic big entity that we have. And with more, other forms of gambling, simply takes it away from the horse race tracks and they do a lot for our state and for the communities that they're in and basically that's my reason for supporting it. Thanks.

SENATOR CONWAY PRESIDING

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Will, please.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body.