

them operating. This is a different question in terms of whether or not the state should subsidize the industry flat out with other tax dollars that are raised through a different form of gambling. Clearly I consider a very different question with regard to what we want to do here, but it is a question of whether or not you want to support the industry, the horse racing industry, to the tune of 2 percent of the gross on any lottery. I'm going to give it a green. It is a very difficult policy question that we have to ask ourselves. I have no problem with the issue of the local options because we don't raise that money. In that sense, what we're doing there is asking the locals to help subsidize for their own benefit their economic development that they receive off the tracks rather than having the state do it. If you guys at the local level want to run a lottery in competition to the track then you help with your share of taking care of the track and don't expect the state to pick it up. I think you need to draw a clear distinction there because the two are separate and distinct.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Smith, you're next.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to ask a question of Senator Johnson if I might.

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Johnson, would you respond?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Johnson, I did come...go over to your desk and ask you and you did respond publicly that the quarter horse industry is not included as a segment of the total industry itself when you're talking about racing in Nebraska. Would you have a problem if I would amend your amendment to include quarter horse tracks?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Senator, I would be hesitant to vote for it. You certainly may offer it.

SENATOR SMITH: Well, I'll tell you what, Senator Johnson, I'm hesitant to vote for this amendment...

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, I understand that.

SENATOR SMITH: ..and it's based on the fact that if the intent