

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schellpeper would move to amend Senator Johnson's amendment. (See FA203 as found on page 2760 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Schellpeper, please.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. As Senator Johnson has stated, my amendment will put 1 percent to the horsemen, 1 percent to the race tracks. We're already going to be putting 2 percent to the horsemen with keno. The race tracks are the ones in Nebraska that are really suffering. It doesn't do any good to keep giving money to the horsemen when you don't have any race tracks for them to run at. The race tracks in Nebraska this year are down about another 15 to 20 percent. If we keep going this way each year, even though we keep giving money to horsemen, it isn't going to do a bit of good when you won't have any tracks operating. The tracks cannot keep going like we are. It does help to get additional purses to get better horses, but the tracks have to make money and they're not doing it. They're are so many forms of gambling out there, there's just no way that we can currently keep the race tracks going. And so I think by trying to funnel some of the profits from the other types of gambling to the race tracks is a way that we can keep these race tracks going. When we had Don, can't say his last name now, that owns the Runza Restaurants, he said the only way that we can keep race tracks in Nebraska going is to try to get some more funds into racing, horse racing, from all other types of gambling. Well, this is a way to get only 1 percent of the lottery into the racing plan. Now we're letting 1 percent go to the horsemen and 1 percent to the race tracks. I think it's a very fair split. Like I said earlier, it doesn't do a bit of good if you're going to have any race track there within two, three years. You can have all kinds of purses. It won't do you a bit of good if you don't have that race track making money. So, with that, I would urge the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR CONWAY: There are no other lights on, Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Once again, I just want to make what I'm trying to really do here. I'm trying to go 1 percent of this 2 percent--1 percent to the horsemen, 1 percent to the race tracks. And the reason I'm doing that is because you need to have the race tracks also make money, not just the horsemen. It