

course, many of you here who were present when we enacted the simulcast wagering legislation many...a number of years ago. I recall when that was considered not to be desirable, but today simulcasting is taking place at this very moment at the Omaha facility and it is a major assist to the thoroughbred industry and to racing in Nebraska. Last, but not least, is the fact that many individuals in Nebraska are engaged in the production of thoroughbreds, in the breeding and raising of thoroughbreds, and in the providing of supplies for the racing industry. To allow that industry to deteriorate is not consistent with good business practices in this state. This is not a bill which has any fiscal impact upon the state. This is a bill which will assist an existing industry and a very proud industry and a very healthy industry to continue to exist in this state. I support the committee amendments. I appreciate the work of the General Affairs Committee. I appreciate the work of Senator Stan Schellpeper, who is one of the very strong supporters of racing in the state, and the State Fair Board members, who also, of course, understand the contributions that racing has made to the State of Nebraska. I would answer any questions you might have. If I can't answer them, I'm sure that Senator Schellpeper or others can do so. But if there are no questions, I would ask you to vote in favor of the committee amendments. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Mr. Clerk, do we have amendments to the committee amendments?

CLERK: I do, Madam President. The first amendment to the committee amendments I have is by Senator Johnson. Senator, I have AM1519 in front of me. (See Senator Rod Johnson's AM1519 on page 1867 of the Legislative Journal, First Session.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you. Did you say 1519?

CLERK: 1519, Senator.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, thank you, sir. Madam President and members, this amendment has been printed in the Journal from last year and, like most of you we're trying to refresh our memories about some of the debate that took place relative to these issues and I would be brief in my explanation of this amendment because I think the amendment is generally agreed upon by most parties. What it does is two things. First of all, it