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person there besides myself at this bill. It isn't that we want to get special legislation for Columbus. It is just that I think in order to have fair representation throughout the state, it needs to be increased. It seems to me that only having two people as a quorum, two people running the state, and as you know, the racing industry has really suffered some hard times. It seems like we have to have bingo, keno, pickles, and everything else to supplement the racing right on the track. It isn't the king of sports anymore that it used to be, and I would like to get it back to the king of sports, and I think the three, increasing the membership from three to five, would certainly help that out. And I don't believe...it has been brought up again that we want representation for Columbus, well, we can't write that into the law. These commissioners can come from anywhere in the state. They could come from Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, and so forth, not Grand Island, but they could come from the area surrounding Hall County. So it isn't special legislation. It is just simply to provide the opportunity for additional representation on the commission from unrepresented areas of the state. It seems like that the larger areas of the state are sucking the rural communities dry and what they want to do is give smaller racetracks, just leave them open and give them simulcasting. Well, it isn't any fun to go to the racetrack and just watch a simulcasting machine. I think that if we can't help our ailing race industry any better than that, I think we should take a look at our race commission a little more closely. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robak. Before we continue with the debate, I would like to recognize some special guests of Senator Paul Hartnett today. Seated in the south balcony are 14 Boy Scouts from 299 in Bellevue, with their leader. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chambers today. Also, I would like to recognize a former state senator who is with us today. Senator Tom Kennedy is seated back under the south balcony. Welcome to the Legislature. Thank you. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam President and members of the body, I, when Senator Robak introduced this bill into the...it was heard by the General Affairs Committee, I cosigned with it, and I, for a different reason, I just have problems myself with a three-person committee making decisions in this state. So that is why I signed on is to increase it to five, is because I think two people then can rule the roost, shall we say, and that is