

February 18, 1992 LB 1061

wasn't there. We have no information as to the cost effectiveness of the track, of its projections for the future, of its take, or whether it can do anything with respect to ticket prices, or it can do anything else as far as raising money. We have allowed simulcasting, we've made attempt after attempt to help to resuscitate Ak-Sar-Ben, and we've done it in an open convention of dialogue with the Revenue Committee and with that track, and this amendment breeches that relationship. There is not enough information, and there's not been a chance for public discussion or public debate on this issue for us to rewrite a bargain made openly, twice before, in consultation with the Legislature, at this late date upon this kind of a showing. This amendment should fail. And if it doesn't fail, I'll certainly be voting against the bill and its advancement. This is not the time to be making this. If there was a late breaking piece of information, then there should have been a motion to suspend the rules and to introduce a bill after the ten-day period, schedule it for the Revenue Committee and do the same steps you do with every other tax break we give. Generally speaking, that's the norm that we follow. We ask for a showing and a reason; we ask for the facts, we ask for the numbers and we don't have them. What we've got is a General File amendment to keep a tax break that was negotiated in good faith and openly, to keep that tax break in perpetuity without the same kind of steps being made. It's too late. It's unsupported, it doesn't have information. And this is us dropping the ball if we allow...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...business to be conducted in this fashion. This amendment should fail.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Next speaker is Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Landis did an excellent, excellent job of explaining why the amendment and the bill should fail. I would like to add some words to that. It was said on the floor that horse racing is going through some hard times, that horse racing is no longer the king of sports. I have heard this for the 10 to 12 years that I've sat on the Revenue Committee, the king of sports is in