

Legislature will adopt the Conway amendment, which is only good sense to adopt to reflect the action of the committee and put back in place the language we need in this bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Wehrbein, you're next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. I'll be brief, because part of it is a sense of frustration I have. I understand the Government Committee's action, but I just want to, I guess, perhaps give a warning for another year. If we can't make cuts in some areas that perhaps are appropriate, and I won't automatically say that this is an appropriate one, but certainly there is not the level of activity in these events that there has been in the past. And so it made sense, at least to my way of thinking, that this is one area that we could take a legitimate cut without actually damaging the program, because it was intended to be oversaw...overseen by either Omaha, or Lincoln, or some mechanism. So we weren't exactly letting those participants totally unregulated. There was an intent that they could be perhaps cash funded on a more local basis and not nearly get into the kind of money, on a statewide basis, that we're talking about here. So I'm in a real dilemma, a real paradox because I'm going to be forced to vote here, because of statutory language, for something that I think is a very legitimate cut into the future. And I just remind the body that 25 or 28,000 is 1/4 of 100,000. And I can be very sure that in another year we're going to be desperately looking for hundreds of thousands of dollars. And 100,000 or even 25,000 will be a significant amount. And we are going to make real hurts and some cuts by cutting this amount of money. In fact, it could be said I reluctantly didn't vote previously on the region...regional money, Region IV, Region V, where is very...where there are very legitimate needs in this area. That was 143,000, one is 150, 1/6th of what we're talking about here. But these little amendments are going to add up in another year, and I just remind us to be...if we don't want to do it today, then be looking into the future as to what we're going to do. I won't go into the process that Senator Moore and Senator Bernard-Stevens talked about. But somehow, somehow we have no mechanism in place for every...ever doing away with the horse and buggy days, the horse whips or whatever. Whatever program is going to fad away as we encourage...as we bring new programs on line, we're going to have to have a mechanism to...to get rid of those. I'm not necessarily saying the Athletic Commission