

Abboud, followed by Senators Hartnett and Bohlke.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Yes, Madam Chair, would Senator Lamb yield to a question?

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Senator Lamb, I'm looking for a senator that can explain to me what the phrase "good for agriculture" is. When we talk about horse racing we always hear the phrase, this is good for agriculture. I assume it has something to do with the fact that the horses are raised here in Nebraska, the horses eat Nebraska grain in order to live, and that's my interpretation of what "good for agriculture" is. Is it...you're a...you're a senator that represents the rural part of the state and I wanted to confirm with you, is that a proper definition of what the term means?

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Senator Abboud, certainly horses do eat oats, however, I don't think...I don't think you look...I'm not looking at this as a boon to agriculture. It's primarily an industry in this state. It has to do with an industry which is really maybe related to agriculture in a minor way, very minor way, but really we're looking like...to an industry like a manufacturing industry or some other kind of industry in the state which does produce revenue for the business people in the state, as well as tax revenue.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Well, would this amendment that you're talking about, to not adopt this particular amendment of Senator Schellpeper's, a rejection, would this be...would your approach be good for the horse racing industry?

SENATOR LAMB: Well, I think it would in that the small tracks would benefit, no doubt about it. They have not gotten this money before from simulcast racing, as Senator Schellpeper indicated. However, they would be eligible for this money if we leave status quo and don't adopt this amendment and that would help with the purses, which are needed to attract the horsemen into the state.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Well, Senator Lamb, are a lot of these horses, these quarter horses, are they Nebraska-bred horses?

SENATOR LAMB: Well, a lot of them are, not all of them. I