

March 31, 1992

LB 72, 503, 1061, 1237

SPEAKER BAACK: LB 72 fails to advance. The call is raised. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Mr. President, amendment to LB 503, and to LB 1237, LB 503 by Senator Moore, Senator Wickersham to LB 1237. That is all that I have, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: We will now proceed to LB 1061.

CLERK: Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Senator Will is going to be here shortly. I will just go ahead and carry the bill. Where are we at, at the present time, on this bill?

SPEAKER BAACK: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator, we were discussing an amendment offered by Senator Hall that Senator Will was handling for him. The amendment is on page 1360 of the Journal.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Okay, thank you. Mr. Speaker and members, this amendment was brought to us, as we discussed this morning, by Douglas County Racing because we need to have this amendment. What this is, this is a status quo amendment. It puts Ak-Sar-Ben in the same light that they are at the present time. Senator Landis, I think, met with the Ak-Sar-Ben Board and he had several questions. Hopefully that Ak-Sar-Ben Board was able to answer Senator Landis, his questions, what he had about this amendment. We are not attempting to do any more than what they are currently being offered. This amendment is an attempt to help them sell bonds so that Douglas County can take over the racing operation of Ak-Sar-Ben. I think last year they paid 160 some thousand dollars, in 1991. They will pay that, approximately that same amount, this year. They will continue to pay that amount of taxes. If we do not approve this amendment, it would go up to approximately six hundred to seven hundred thousand dollars. They lost \$1.3 million last year at Ak-Sar-Ben racing, so they cannot continue. If we are going to try to protect the horse racing industry in Nebraska, we need to try to help them with this tax credit. We are not going to be doing, as I stated before, any more than what we are doing and