

In other words, horse racing is not the type of gambling that is going to be on the increase. It is on the downside now, and that is a question that you can answer on your time because we will run out before we can continue the question and answer. But I am offended at what Douglas County is doing. I am offended at the way they have approached this whole thing, and, Senator Ashford, they are not going to get my vote. Ak-Sar-Ben has steadily lost money. When some of the people from these little tracks stand up here and talk about how it is necessary to save Ak-Sar-Ben, their tracks have been threatened by Ak-Sar-Ben and they know it. So for them to stand on this floor and pretend that this is such a wonderful thing is a part of the same kind of deception that Senator Ashford has accused Douglas County of. There is no altruism on this floor, Senator Schellpeper, by you or anybody else who supports this amendment. There is no altruism on the part of Senator Will. We have some people trying to bail out a group of elitist who have a dying proposition on their hands, and no private entity was going to spend the amount of money that they wanted to take that turkey off their hands. So Douglas County, which is supposed to be represented by a board that represents the public, is the one that is going to absorb this turkey. But having put itself in that position, they are now coming to the state and saying let all of the taxpayers throughout the state underwrite the purchase of this turkey without any assurances that it is going to pay off. If they cannot...they are going to sell these bonds, Senator Will and his supporters feel, by letting bond purchasers, potential purchasers feel that they are going to get underwritten by the state in the first instance. And if these bonds are purchased...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and Ak-Sar-Ben continues to lose money to such an extent that the revenue is not going to pay off the bonds, then the bondholders and the other politicians in Douglas County are going to come down here and get the Legislature to make an appropriation. I had said several years ago that the point would be reached when the state is asked to subsidize the track, and we are at that point now. And it is just a short step to an appropriation, and then they will say the state encouraged Douglas County to go into this purchase by giving the tax incentives, and now having gotten the county out there on there limb, how fair is it for the state to withdraw and leave them out there to swing in the wind? Let them do like all