

my amendment to, I just ask for the support of my amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robak. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President, members, I arrive on the General Affairs Committee with Senator Schellpeper and others and we did hear this bill before the committee and I must say Senator Robak did raise some questions relative to the representation of certain communities that have horse racing facilities in their jurisdiction or boundaries that felt that they were not being properly represented by the Racing Commission. My only point, and I guess the point that I settled with when I voted against advancing the bill was we have a financial problem with the commission now, why add to that problem? Secondly, will we get any better representation of the Columbus track by adding two new members, maybe we will, maybe we won't. I just don't see that we'll solve any basic problems by expanding the Racing Commission with two extra members. I think we have an efficient operation that is handling our Racing Commission in Nebraska. I never heard any really good solid arguments as to why we needed two extra people other than Columbus felt that they were being slighted in the process and felt that they needed a representative on the commission's board of operations and for that reason I couldn't compel myself to vote on that bill for those singular reasons. I would look for better reasons than that, but at this point recognizing, as this bill does, that the commission is short of cash flow at the moment, adding more salaried people or commissioners to the board doesn't solve the problem at all, in fact, it compounds the problem, so I would oppose the Robak amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Madam President, members of the body, I, too rise to oppose the Robak amendment at this point. Again, just to reiterate a couple things that have been said, it was debated on General File. It was turned down. It was brought to the General Affairs Committee in the form of the bill. It has failed to advance from that committee. Senator Schellpeper indicated the General Affairs Committee will be doing a study of the Racing Commission and its operation and structure over the interim. I certainly would be willing to entertain a bill, similar to this proposal as a member of the General Affairs Committee if I'm back there again, but I think at this point in