

Abboud's amendment that you really can't give that money to the horsemen, and I guess that's an issue that we need to debate, but if you, one reason if you agree with that, the next question is where should that money go? Now Senator Abboud said, I know the Omaha City Council said a number of times that money was stolen. Senator Hall, as he often does, comes in and stole that money from the City of Omaha. The question I have, why is it the City of Omaha's money? Whose money should that be? This amendment, Senator Abboud's amendment would decrease that 2 percent that now it goes to the horsemen fund and Senator Abboud's amendment, that would increase by 2 percent what goes to the cities in Douglas County. That's about, as he said, \$880,000. The reason I say this amendment is a second chance, as I said last year, once you institute a tax rate it's impossible, well, it's improbable if not impossible to ever go back, change that, keep more money for the state. Now presently the way it works, 65 percent of those gross proceeds are paid out, 14 percent go to the lottery operations, 2 percent go to charitable gaming in the General Fund, the State of Nebraska, 2 percent goes for horse racing and the balance goes for community betterment. I believe if my arithmetic is right, that's about 17 percent. Senator Abboud's amendment would go 65, 14, 2 and increased probably to 19, a maximum allowable of 19 percent to the community betterment fund, that's \$880,000 in Douglas County. Well the question is, once again, now you have the last chance to increase the state's keep on something because once you give it to the cities, you're never going to get it back. It's that simple. The only way you can ever keep an increase to the state's chunk is to do it in the beginning and now is probably the last chance to do that because you're really not taking money from anybody if you do it now, do it a year from now, you're going to argue...then you will be facing the argument you're taking a million dollars from the communities in Douglas County. Basically what this would be is it's the four-fifths of the keno proceeds come out of Douglas County, that would be unchanged. That's money that is now going into the horsemen fund, it would now come to the state if you choose not to take it to the horsemen fund. There would be a couple of hundred thousand dollars in the other 92 counties that is going to cities that arguably would now go to the state, but the bulk of it, four-fifths of it is those Douglas County communities that will, if you adopt Senator Abboud's amendment, are going to have about a \$900,000 windfall. Who should get that windfall if you're going to do that? I think the State of Nebraska, I think we were shortchanged last year and one of the