

Legislature, I also am opposed to the override. This is in my opinion an unconstitutional bill, and I would be very pleased if the Supreme Court would look at our discussion and lift from some of the comments we make things that it would say in its opinion. And I wish Senator Schmit were here because one of his favorite comments would refer...his examples to what is found on page 5, line 22 of this bill. And it says that according to this act, wagers placed at these different locations will be deemed to be wagers placed and accepted within the enclosure of any racetrack. The only way you could do that and let a bill like this could be constitutional is if you declare the entire State of Nebraska a racetrack. Then anywhere you allow this betting would be within the enclosure. But for the members of this Legislature to pretend that this wagering is within the enclosure of a racetrack is asinine, totally and purely. And the only reason this bill is here now is because of Ak-Sar-Ben, the power that they and their lobbyists have, and I think this whole issue is verging on the type of political corruption that you find in other places. Bernie Simon, who is now a member of the Douglas County Board, had indicated that a very prominent businessperson in Omaha had indicated to him the kind of political support he would get if he supported the county being allowed to purchase the racetrack. Senator Ashford mentioned the outright crookedness in one of the keno games. And when the operators found out, those in charge, they didn't say anything about it. And with the millions of dollars at stake here, I don't think they are above bribing. I don't think they're above threatening. I don't think they're above extorting. And the first thing we tried to do for Ak-Sar-Ben was to underwrite and subsidize them with taxes. And I'm glad I had a major part to play in stopping that bill. But this one is even worse. We know this is unconstitutional. To say that a wager outside the track is deemed to be inside the track because the Legislature says so is crazy. Only a bunch of legislators under the dominance of Ak-Sar-Ben or some other powerful group would say such a thing. And here's the example Senator Schmit used to love to give. Abraham Lincoln was talking to a fellow and he said, if I told you that this dog's tail is a leg, how many legs would the dog have. The person said five. Lincoln said, no my calling it a leg doesn't make it a leg, it's still a tail. That's what applies here. Saying that this tail is a leg does not make it a leg. The Legislature saying we deem something to be the case when the Constitution and common sense says it's not is not going to make it so. But if this bill is overridden, it will just follow a pattern of the Legislature showing how