

help out of it. But I question how much that's going to be. The last thing that I want to say before I sit down is that I talked to Senator Schellpeper and told him I would support his bill if he'd put an amendment on there that only rich people could gamble. But he doesn't want to do that. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President and members of the body, haven't spoken on this issue, I've in the past have supported gambling, have supported, I voted last year on the kill motion to support Senator Hall, voted against the kill motion. I've had a change of, I've had a change of heart, I guess. I've changed my mind or something. I guess you're allowed to do that once in awhile in your life, I guess, and so forth. What I see I think, and Senator Vrtiska talked a little bit about it, we're only going to have four or five casinos in this, in this state, you know. And maybe that's the thing to do. And I, what I see from my experience, I have traveled to Louisiana, I've traveled to Mississippi where they have had gambling, it has to be the biggest and the...the bigger and better than anything else there to attract the people to the casino. It has to be bigger and better. So what we're going to have to do if we, you know, if we're going to save the racetracks that Senator Fisher talked about, it's going to have to be bigger and better than the casinos that are in Iowa right now. And, you know, is that good economic business? Maybe it is, maybe it is. You know I don't see it helping my, you know, in the pressure I'm getting, I'm getting the letters and so forth, and phone calls and so forth. I don't see this helping my, you know, if we put machines in my, my Eagles that I have on my VFW and so forth, I see them just recycling the money that they have right now and they won't have money to, to fix their house or whatever they do with it, it's simply that. And so I just think that's it's...the horse has been out of the gate. It's out of the gate. It's passed us. When I first came into this Legislature a few years ago, I suggested to the racing industry something they should do. And they kind of scoffed at me and so forth. So I think we're behind, the race has left us. We're behind and I don't think we can catch up. So with that, I will not be supporting this year. I will be supporting the bracket motion rather than the other way. Thank you.