

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 10, 2005

LB 500

three-quarters of a mile gravel road that these nice cars, very nice cars, have to travel on to get to that race track. And let me tell you, we've been working with that township and the county and the Tourist Division in Dodge County to try to get that road paved so they can get those cars to that race track. The fellow that's running it is trying to keep it alive. A lot of people come there, but they don't like to travel on that gravel road. Maybe we could give that race track 75 percent of the sales tax that he collects so that he could get his road paved. That's all the guy is asking for. If we go down...keeping going down this slippery slope, we aren't going to have any tax base left. We started down this area in retail, whether you want to believe it or not, a couple of years ago when we gave Wal-Mart a tax break. Oh, no. That...the sponsor of that bill said, now this is a warehouse, this is not a retail operation. Well, the last time I checked, there's no separation in Wal-Mart between their retail and their warehouse division. It's one company. It's all going into one corporate headquarters. Will they make money? Will Cabela's make money when they come here? You're darn right they will. They have something to offer. I won't go there because I'm not interested in that kind of stuff, but there are a heck of a lot of people that will. They'll flock into this attraction, if you want to call it that. Now, it's going...there's going to be so many people there. Will their accommodations be enough to satisfy everyone that wants to stay there? Probably not. So what are we going to do for them? We're going to give them a ticket and say, you go down to the hotel, Marriott Hotel and show them this ticket and tell them you're staying at Cabela's and you want to make sure that that 75 percent of that tax comes back to Cabela's. Suppose you could do that? I don't know. I believe that if you can't make it in this business world without help from federal and state dollars, then you'd better get out of the business. And this has to end somewhere. Is it going to end here? Well, it could be a darn good start. If they want to come here, let them play on the same level playing field that the rest of the retail businessmen in this state have to play by. I didn't vote for this coming out of committee, for that particular reason. And I will not...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.