

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

March 30, 2006      LB 745

to go down to Horsemen's Park and you want to play these devices, you'll have to watch the entire race.

SENATOR LOUDEN:      Okay, well, thanks, Senator Synowiecki. I would rather watch a horse race, I guess. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Thank you, Senator Louden.      Senator Synowiecki, you may continue, motion to bracket.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI:      Thank you, Senator Cudaback. As I indicated, this is a new technology available within the thoroughbred industry. It is an attempt to provide for an enhancement to bring the fans back to the track. It is, as Senator Stuthman indicated also, there's collateral positive impacts economically, relative to our racing industry. There's an agricultural component relative to breeders. Our Nebraska-bred thoroughbred program has been diminished. Breeders are not dropping foals in the state of Nebraska now because of the diminished purses at our tracks. And this is essentially a tool for them to use that other states have adopted, namely Arkansas, to help solidify and regain a position in the market for...in the gaming market, which Nebraska is actively participating in, to regain a share within that gaming market and to attract the new generation of fans. These are what they call instant racing terminals. And it's almost difficult to "differentiate" what we have now, as I was...during my discussion with Senator Louden. I can go to Horsemen's Park this afternoon, bet on races at an individual machine, and put the money in the machine and bet these horse races. The difference is, is these will be based upon historic races rather than horse races that are fed live from another track. The basic premise of these instant racing terminals is that it allows the player to bet on a previously run thoroughbred race. It is, in all aspects, identical to live or simulcast racing with the exception that the identities of the race, the horse, the trainer, and the jockey are concealed, but all that information in terms of past performances is available. The player activates the machine. The instant racing terminal is a stand-alone machine, but it is tied in, via computer, to a central tote system and there's where you have your parimutuel wagering aspect of this. The machine has a set of buttons,