

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

March 30, 2006 LB 745

parimutuel video lottery terminals went on-line early in 2000 in Oaklawn. Handle in 2004 is up 50 percent over the last year and July will be the first \$6 million month. And we pulled up some other ones. RaceTech at Oaklawn and they've been testing that. And actually, theirs, they started out with 25 cents to a dollar per play. We're going to start out at \$10 and then, yes, we'll go up then. If fans double their wages, they can qualify for a special jackpot which can reach \$5,000. Now instant racing has been approved at Oregon tracks and so this is something...and it's also, I understand, in Wyoming. But it's all a way and a method to separate people from their money that they have. And I don't know, yesterday we were supporting an education bill and we have distance learning and we've done all that. And yet, we've got to be doing something wrong when, in mathematic classes, that people think that they can make money through gambling. It just doesn't work. This is an expansion of gambling. Last year, we had it on the ballot for casinos. It was voted down by the public. I think it's time to step back and say, whoa, let's wait a while, without approving more gambling in more ways in this state. Yes, I think Senator McDonald, through her bill, we were able to catch up a little bit and start to treat individuals. But to think that you can run a race every 2 minutes, and that you can bet \$10 on that race every 2 minutes; 2 goes into 60 minutes about 30, so 30 times \$10, in my book, is somewhere around \$300 bucks an hour you can lose if you play every race. I don't think we need to go here. I think what we have is enough. And I'd like to give the rest of my time to Senator Don Pederson, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Don Pederson, 1 minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. President. This hasn't got a whole lot to do with horse racing but, you know, oftentimes we stand here in the Legislature and we say, I wonder what it's like outside. Well, we have the unique ability here to hear the dripping coming through the window, see the little blinds up there, soaking wet. And if anybody wonders why we have decided to speed up the renovation of the repairs of this building, I hope they just listen under the south balcony as to what it's really like in here. So I just thought I'd call your attention to the fact that some of the things that we do are for the good