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

April 10, 2006 LB 745

There are a lot of quarter horses in Nebraska that if they would have something to help promote with, then they could probably start horse races around some of these towns in the state. especially in your rural areas. And it would do quite a lot for These small rodeos bring in tourism. There's no reason why quarter horse tracks couldn't do the same thing. doesn't take a whole lot of country to have a quarter horse track, usually a barn or two and some short track, because they run past the grandstands and then get slowed down. That's about the end of it. I hate to see this thing, the way it was brought I think it should have been brought forward as a way to promote quarter horse racing in Nebraska and historic horse racing should have been an afterthought to help it get through the beginning stages and probably to make some money for the horse breeders that contribute and bring horses to these tracks. At present time, there are areas where they are probably having matched races. Any of you that went to rodeos years ago, when I was a youngster and even after I was clear up in my twenties, a lot of the rodeos, that was a big deal. There would be horse races there. Crawford up there used to have horse races that was half the rodeo was horse races. And those were matched races. Nobody was...they didn't have any place in grandstand you bet money, but don't kid yourself. There was money laid out on every horse race on which horse was the best and that sort of thing. So horse racing is a viable sport in Nebraska. It could be promoted and I think a bill like this could probably help promote it. But I think it has to be at another time and another day because this got a hold of by the thoroughbred people and for your thoroughbred horse tracks and it was brought forward and looks like another form of gambling, which it is. But if it was down to where it would just work for quarter horses, I think this is something that would work. would like to see this thing probably rethought and brought back at a future date, probably next year or something, brought back I think if it's done right, this can be an and done right. It isn't that many tracks around that would asset to Nebraska. have this type of simulcast racing or video racing. could be used and it could be used to help promote quarter horse racing in Nebraska. And that's what it's all about, is to use the assets that we have in Nebraska. We raise a lot of cattle and we also raise a lot of quarter horses.