

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

April 10, 2006 LB 745

these machines. You're betting against other bettors. You're not betting against the house. You're not betting against a machine that is like the slot machine. You're betting against the slot machine when you pull that slot (sic). But horse racing is different. If \$1,000 is bet on this one horse to win and it don't win and those dollars are put in the total pool of the ones that are divided out. But if that horse wins, then that share is divided in the winnings. So it's dollars that are bet of people that are betting, the people that are betting on this machine are betting against each other and that pool is divided then after that percentage is taken off. You're not betting against a slot machine. You're not betting against the house or the state or somebody else or the one that's in control of it. You're actually betting on the race as other people are betting. So that...what we're trying to do is just expand the gambling a small part in these racetracks to hopefully save some of these racetracks because this is a very good source of entertainment for a lot of people. I'll tell you, in Columbus when the live meet is going, it is unbelievable the amount of people that go out to the track to watch those horses. They'll watch the horses and in between races I'm sure they do betting on simulcasting and if there was these machines in there, they'd probably place a bet or two on these historic racing. It's just a fact. But there's nobody forcing you to go out there to the track. There's nobody forcing you to bet anything. There's nobody forcing the people to go to the state east of us to the casinos.

SENATOR ENGEL: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: But there is a thing that we do have actual racing and we've got simulcasting and we're just trying to add one more thing to it. And it's not a machine like these slot machines are here. You know, it really disgusts me when they put out something like this. They don't look at all like the ones that we had here in the Capitol of what we showed what it was just as a display and people could come and see it and people were invited to look at it. It's totally different. I know people have imprinted in their mind it's a slot machine. But it is not a slot machine. Thank you.