

your presence, please. Thank you. Senator Labedz, would you record your presence, please. Senator Robak, record your presence, please. Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Chambers, would you record your presence, please. Thanks. We're looking for Senator Lynch, Senator Owen Elmer, Senator Peterson, Senator Pirsch. Senator Kristensen, record your presence, please. Thank you. Okay, we're looking for Senator Bernard-Stevens is all. Senator McFarland, shall we go ahead with your roll call vote?

SENATOR MCFARLAND: That would be fine.

PRESIDENT: All right. The question is the advancement of the bill. Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 297 of the Legislative Journal.) 21 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement.

PRESIDENT: LB 180 fails to advance. Mr. Clerk, do you have anything for the record, please?

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, I do.

PRESIDENT: The call is raised.

CLERK: Mr. President, new bills. (Read by title for the first time LBs 600-647. See pages 298-308 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, in addition to those items, I have hearing notice from the Natural Resources Committee, signed by Senator Schmit. Notice of hearing from the Revenue Committee. That is signed by Senator Hall. Notice of hearing from the Government Committee. That's signed by Senator Baack.

Mr. President, that's all that I have at this time.

PRESIDENT: We will progress on to LB 190.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 190 was a bill that was introduced Senator Withem. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9, referred to Education, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Senator Withem, just a moment, maybe we

a \$2,500 claimer and you carry more or less trashy bills, as you become a little more experienced you carry the more important bills, and eventually you become really experienced, you get up to where you serve on the very important committees, Appropriations and Revenue, and then after a while you peak, and you begin kind of a downhill slide, and that is kind of like...about an 8-year-old thoroughbred, and you decide, well, maybe the best thing I can do is try to avoid being retired. In the case of a thoroughbred you go on down to the Alpo plant and when you break out of the gate you just kind of run along with the herd and you hope to finish third or fourth and avoid breaking a leg or something. That's the way we do it on this floor here. So there are a lot of similarities between the thoroughbred industry and the State Legislature. But I want to point out also that here on the legislative floor many times we debate the impact of the industry upon the population, and we discuss whether or not the side effects, the parimutuel betting is meritorious or otherwise. Well, parimutuel betting falls under the description of good gambling. And so those of you who have any doubts about whether or not you ought to enlarge and expose a greater share of the population to the benefits of interstate simulcasting, I want to reassure you that parimutuel betting is good gambling and it doesn't necessarily corrupt your morals, in the opinion of most of us, if you participate in it. I want to say also that we estimate that interstate simulcasting could perhaps increase the handle by maybe 20 percent over what we have now. We might even, thereby, get the handle up to the point where the tracks would again begin to pay a little tax to the State of Nebraska, which of course is of deep interest to all of us. I want to say this, that as I said earlier, the General Affairs Committee did a lot of work on the bill, and there have been some attempts made to address some of the other concerns. I had another bill, LB 641, which was somewhat debated as to whether or not it would be a reasonable amendment to this bill. I think it would be. I'm not going to offer it at this time, I'm going to go along with the spirit of Senator Chambers and hope the bill will move somewhat smoothly today. If there is any need for additional consideration, if there are other amendments that need to be offered, hopefully we can do it on Select File. I would hope the bill could be advanced and that we could move it along so that if it does become law, and that is the wishes of the people of this Legislature and the Governor of the State of Nebraska that it can become law soon enough so that we can enjoy the benefits of interstate simulcasting on the Kentucky Derby this year. Therefore,

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LB 84, 525, 588, 641, 653

I got...the way I got beat down on that because people don't want to do that. But the fact of the matter is, if you are not going to spend the money and put it in a reserve fund like in Section 3, the money is going to have to come from somewhere. I think it can come from capital construction. I think it possibly could conceivably come from some of the items in the mainline appropriation bill, and, yes, for myself, it could indeed come from some marginally less version of LB 84 because I think it is important that if you are going to do it and you think it is wise, that we all share in the responsibility of that and our own pet interest and cut them all back a little bit, and put the money aside so in the next biennium we don't have to go through what we went through four years ago, four years ago during the Memorial Day Massacre. I think it wouldn't be wise to do that. If Senator Warner reintroduces the amendment on Select File in even a lesser amount or at least a zero amount, that option is good, and I will be supporting it then.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall, on the advancement of the bill. Thank you. Any other discussion on the motion to advance LB 525? Seeing none, the question is then the advancement of the bill. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the advancement of 525.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 525 is advanced. An announcement to the effect that we will now return to Select File, senator priority bills. Anything for the record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I do. Your Committee on General Affairs, whose Chair is Senator Smith, reports LB 641 to General File with committee amendments attached. I have amendments to be printed to LB 525, and to LB 653, Mr. President. (See pages 2280-87 of the Legislative Journal.) That is all that I have at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Back then to LB 588. Mr. Clerk, can you bring us up to date?

CLERK: Mr. President, 588 was discussed this morning. Enrollment and Review amendments were adopted. Senator Withem and Hartnett had an amendment to the bill that was adopted.