

know that we both know some of these societies probably would not get a majority of the votes. Senator Robak, would you like to respond to that?

SENATOR ROBAK: Which county are you talking about, and what would not be voted on by the local people?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I asked the questions on my time, you can ask me on yours. I thought you wanted to respond to what I had said, and I wanted to give you the opportunity, but I will answer questions to you on your time, if you want to ask me, but there are a couple of things I definitely want to say. In Douglas County, for example, Ak-Sar-Ben is kind of in limbo now. It was given all kinds of concessions, not only because it was a racetrack and was getting subsidies and continues to get those by way of tax breaks, but it is not sure exactly what it is. Part of it is run by a corporation. Part of it, I don't know, well, yes, the county has something to do with it, but it is nebulous in my mind exactly what is going on, but I will tell you this for sure, they are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. Every year the county has had it, they have lost hundreds of thousands, they above a half million dollars that they have lost. So that is something which the public will have to make up if it is considered a county operation and the loss will be absorbed by the taxpayers. So, these kinds of operations are not necessarily a total good for the public. Some of them create circumstances, such as those in Omaha, where this society can fall into the hands of the county or the county can bail it out to help some of the big shots who have the money invested in it. But in any case, all this amendment says is that the people in the county have the opportunity to have presented to them a question. We have here an agricultural and horticultural society. They profess to be doing things that are of benefit to the county. Do you think what they are doing is of sufficient worth to entitle them to be exempt from paying property tax, personal property tax on property, which others having similar...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...property have to pay taxes? And I am sure the people would say if we have to pay those taxes, let them pay these taxes also, but it would be up to the public. So here is the question I will ask you in my final minute, if this did pass, and the public voted against allowing this exemption, why