

CLERK: 37 ayes, 0 nays Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Resolution is adopted. Are there other resolutions on the desk?

CLERK: Read LR114.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is the companion resolution that I spoke to yesterday and it regards asking the Federal Government to move towards rolling back the price of diesel fuel back to 33¢ a gallon. Again to summarize very quickly, there are those that would say that the Legislature can't do anything in this area. I think that we proved that we could yesterday by the meeting that we had. I think that it was a good from the public relations standpoint for the legislature and I think that we should be given credit for being on top of an issue and I think as we were told yesterday that the raising of the rates is not the answer for the independent truckers, that their fuel bills had gone up an average of \$50 or more on their regular runs per week and that it is the higher price of diesel fuel that they are paying that is actually causing them their problems today. They say don't raise the rates, just get the fuel back to where we can live with it.

(end belt #1)

(start belt #2)

I think that the news last night and today has indicated that there is growing pressure on the federal government to a halt the rising cost and to a make a real good attempt to rolling back the cost of fuel. So I would urge the adoption of LR114. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Speaker Proud. The motion before the house is strictly to suspend the rules to consider the resolution.

SPEAKER PROUD: Mr. President, I have a question of Senator Snyder. I wasn't able to attend the meeting last night. There is something that I just don't understand about this. I am sure that you can clear this up. The independent truckers are protesting understandably the high price of fuel. But what I don't understand is can't they...I assume that they had contracts with the suppliers or manufacturers or what ever or merchants to haul, is that not correct?

SENATOR SNYDER: I'm not sure that I understand your question...

SPEAKER PROUD: I'm just saying is it not correct that... cause I don't know, that the truckers negotiate a price for hauling foodstuff or whatever they are hauling.

SENATOR SNYDER: Well they do, but it is a set rate and they are saying that the persons whom they contract with are not increasing their contract rates. Therefore they are the only ones who are absorbing the cost of the increase in fuel. They have no one to pass it on to. It is either haul for the rates that they have been contracting for, which with the increase in fuel is now causing them to "operate at a loss". They say rather than raise the rate and pass the cost on to we the consumer, why can't they in effect force the.....