

think, Senator Stoney, we're talking about, oh, for instance that Games and Parks would have a picnic area or cabins, etc., that do not cost more than a hundred thousand dollars. They have existing plans that they could use and, therefore, saving the architectural fee of about nine percent, say, on an eighty thousand dollar contract. It definitely would be a savings to the state.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Labedz, I also noticed since you mentioned architect in your last comment, that there were a couple of individuals that were registered architects that testified in opposition to this proposal. Could you advise what the thrust of their testimony might have been?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Well, naturally, I believe Senator Stoney it's because of the loss of the nine percent fee that they would get on contracts up to a hundred thousand. The present law states that they could...anything over fifty thousand would require a consulting engineer or architect. By raising it to a hundred thousand they would be losing some revenue, or some income on their architectural fee of nine percent, which is quite a bit of money on a hundred thousand dollar contract, and I'm sure that the loss of income is what they were objecting to the bill on.

SENATOR STONEY: Then your perception was that it was self-serving on their part that they be there to testify?

SENATOR LABEDZ: That's correct, and I think the bill is very important because of the fact that we will be saving the state quite a bit of money on the architectural fee when we have...for instance, Senator Stoney, I have here a list...the state employs ten architects in the State Fire Marshal's office, two at DAS in the Historical Society, one at DAS and two at DPI. The state employs eight engineers at Aeronautics, Roads, Games and Parks, Natural Resources. Engineers Two....one at DS and one at Resources and the remainder at the Department of Roads. The Department of Roads has forty...fifty Engineer Threes, and other engineers are employed primarily by the Department of Roads. So we have over a hundred engineers and architects that are well qual'fied to do the planning and designing on contracts up to a hundred thousand.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you, Senator Labedz. I think that Senator Cope touched on another point that is of concern to me, and that is that it could result in the addition of employees as we increase the amounts of these projects. Now in reviewing the fiscal notes on the individual agencies