

amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Dick Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON: Mr. President and members, what this bill does is create a fee for the apiary registration which has never been...never had a registration fee before and so it does create some fees and, hopefully, it will generate about 24 or 25 thousand dollars into Cash Fund reserves. It would cost myself for being a beekeeper \$7.50 for a registration fee and 14 cents a colony. And if you notice in there, it cannot go higher than 20 cents, but if we do not get enough fees in at the 14 cents, the Department has authority to go up to as high as 20 cents and it cannot change that until we change the law of 20 cents. And it also creates a certificate fee of \$5.00 which if I got bees out of the state, I will have to pay, and it has an emergency clause on and 14 cents a colony for those that come in out of the state, which it generates about, like I said, 20 to 25 thousand, hopefully. We won't know until we get the funds coming in. So it does help in reducing the General Fund budget for the apiary from in the past about eighty some thousand down to about 60,000. I ask for your adoption and movement of the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, did you wish to speak on the advancement of the bill?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, sir. Mr. Speaker and members, I commend Senator Peterson for bringing the bill to us. It sets up, as he explained, a user fee basis to support the apiary program. I also want to go on record at this particular stage of the debate and as I informed you yesterday on an amendment that was offered to the budget bill relating to the Animal Damage Control Program that an amendment is being printed at this particular point...it is not ready for the bill drafter's office, that would put the necessary provisions of that Animal Damage Control Program into this particular bill at a later stage of debate. So that amendment is being prepared for those of you that may have been paying attention yesterday when I did say that we were considering this bill as a vehicle for that program, which also sets up a user fee. So I would...I just wanted to go on record letting the people who are interested in the Animal Damage Control Program as well to know that we are in