

I want to emphasize that. They are also very pleased that this Legislature provided them some additional staff in the nature of an accountant, I believe, and they would, of course, like to have another accountant, possibly another attorney, in the event there were a large number of applications at a single time in order that they would be able to meet those requests and act as quickly as possible. The amendment which we have drafted here imposes a 50 cent per year fee on the access lines which is less than 5 cent per year per line in order to fund the staff necessary to make these determinations as quickly and as reasonably as possible. I believe this amendment takes care of the concern of both the industry and of those customers who are protected by the regulatory function of the PSC. I want to say again as I said yesterday time after time after time, this proposal is basically 1119 with these amendments that I have added that were raised by some members of the industry because they felt a need that it should be addressed and should be addressed in one bill or the other. Under this provision, it is addressed and I want to emphasize that in the event that competition does exist, then deregulation is possible. That is a distinct contrast to the other philosophy where you have a protected territory and you do not have competition for pricing. I urge you to adopt this amendment to the DeCamp amendment. And I will not take any more time at this time. I would, however, be glad to answer any questions that might be asked.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson. Senator Harris, did you speak? I am sorry. I guess Senator Harris was next. I am sorry. Senator Harris, you are next.

SENATOR HARRIS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I guess to get us back to where we were yesterday, we got this steer in the ring and we have got to do something with it. I am for getting this disposed of. I am going to support this...would you get us some order, Mr. Speaker.

PRESIDENT: I will do my best. May we have order in the Chamber please (gavel), especially the noise coming from underneath the balconies. (Gavel.)

SENATOR HARRIS: This is one of the bigger issues that we are going to confront this year, as Senator Schmit said, everybody understands their phone bill, you had better understand this one. This is a major amendment that has been put forth by Senator Schmit, and I have been following it and dogging it all the way through, and I am not convinced that I will finally vote