

without further amendment or debate.

PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion to suspend the rules. The Senator is withdrawing his amendment for the time being. Is there another amendment? What do you have?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit would move to amend. (Schmit amendment appears on page 1746 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit. May we have order in the Chamber, please. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator DeCamp has extolled long and loud and eloquently and effectively along with some very effective help. He has had on the floor here and otherwise the benefits of competition. I have been involved in that for many years. I stood on this floor here many years ago and extolled the benefits of competition in other industries, other professions, other activities. Then I saw all of a sudden as that benefit began to accrue to certain businesses that some of those businesses were a little bit less interested in competition as they became the largest entity in the area. Now I would suggest perhaps that if we're going to have the benefits of competition maybe we ought to be interested as a state government, and as other political subdivisions are responsible and we are responsible to them, in also enjoying the benefits of the ultimate in competition. This little amendment, which I have offered here today, would encourage state government and the subdivisions of the state to examine the opportunities they would have to benefit from the diversity of supply of telecommunication services and products to the extent that any telecommunications company may offer any agency or political subdivision of state government any kind of telecommunications services. So I would suggest that we adopt this amendment, and then we can all go to whatever activity we have designated for us this evening with a clear conscience and either a heavy or a light heart, depending on how you happen to feel about this particular bill. I think I want to emphasize again to you I am deeply concerned about the fiscal impact of this bill in its present, not only upon the rural customers, not only upon the small communities, not only upon state government, but upon the entire state. I think if we're going to encourage modern technology to come in then we ought to not withhold from that modern technology the prize plum of all, and that is the plum of governmental services which is obviously the largest and