

whether through accident or artifice had stumbled onto the best deal that any state has ever gotten, and we're part of a deal that has absolutely the best rates. But my point was the amendment had to come from Sprint. They thought they were getting a good deal because they were the only ones they thought would know that AT&T is barred, by federal court order, from competing there. So they thought they were cutting themselves in. I'm not going to vote for the amendment, but it wouldn't matter anyway because I don't care if...there is no way anybody can compete against what we've already got. If they can, I'd love them to offer a lower rate. But it's been attempted, not once but repeatedly. So I oppose the amendment but I do want you to know what it is. It is an attempt, by one company, to think they are going to get in on a good deal. When they take the time to check out, as I have, what we've already got they'll realize they've wasted their time, just like some of the other companies are.

PRESIDENT: Senator Morehead. Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Question.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. I guess if we have no other speakers, Senator Schmit, you may close.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, knowing Senator DeCamp better than most of you I understand his modus operandi, and he's very effective. Senator DeCamp purports to imply that Senator Schmit is carrying the water, so to speak, for a certain particular company, while at the same time he concedes the fact that a year ago he was carrying the water for that company himself. Now I would suggest you would, Johnny, honor my right to speak on this microphone at this time unaided by yourself, eloquent as you are, and uninvited I might add. But I want to point out several little things. First of all Senator John says Schmit is trying to set it up for one little company to come in and pirate from this great, big philanthropic industry which has just, accidentally or otherwise, vested upon state government the best possible rate. Let me suggest, Senator DeCamp, there are other areas of interest here. I am not just talking about state government. I am talking about cities and counties, I am talking about all the other entities we have. And I am suggesting perhaps we might even look into the possibility, which I know you have also investigated, Senator DeCamp, of our own telephone system. There comes a time when, under the industry that we are looking at and the technology which is