

amendment may be adopted before we adjourn. This strikes the language which says that the telecommunications company shall have the burden of proof that such rates and charges are not substantially in excess of the actual economic cost of providing such services. Many people, including myself, have problems with that language, actual economic cost of providing services, and really don't know what it means, and it's not defined. And beyond that in sparsely settled areas, and the Widow Jones that Senator Harris was talking about out in the far reaches may mean that the service is prohibitive. So that language is stricken, and in place of it, as you will see on page 1962, substitutes this language that in effect says the Public Service Commission will determine if the rates, as proposed, are fair, just and reasonable. So this is assuming that it does get to the Public Service Commission one way or another, either through the...in excess of 10 percent increase in a 12 month period, or through the petition process by which a certain number of ratepayers would petition that the increase be subjected to the Public Service Commission. This is, I think, agreed to by both sides in this debate. And I don't know if Senator DeCamp is going to speak in support of it. But I understand that it is okay with the other side.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, please. Okay. There are no other lights on. Is that your opening and closing, Senator Lamb?

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, if there are no other lights on, if Senator DeCamp would want to indicate that this is an acceptable amendment, I would encourage him to do so on my closing time.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, would you like a little of Senator Lamb's closing time?

SENATOR DECAMP: On his closing time it is a very important amendment and it is a good amendment and I support it, and I encourage you to do it also.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Is that your closing, Senator Lamb? The question is the adoption of the Lamb amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Let's vote so we can move along, folks. Getting a little lethargic here. We're voting on the Lamb amendment. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of Senator Lamb's amendment