

of days, in another provision of the bill, from 60 to 90 to complete hearings on rate challenges. That is something some of the opponents said, they thought more time was required, and would reduce any need for increased commission staff. It inserts a provision giving telephone companies, with fewer than 5,000 subscribers, the ability to remain under provisions of the 1982 law. I have to assume that Senator Lamb, and Senator Schmit, and those from rural areas want this because this was the law that they got passed back in 1982. And, even though the bill would make it more stringent, we are going back to, for those subscribers, for Senator Lamb and Senator Schmit, to that 1982 law that they voted out of committee and got passed. Next item is it establishes that the rates in effect on the date the act is implemented will be the effective rates until changed, pursuant to the act. That means you are going to have to maybe push the commission into getting their work completed by January 1, 1987, so you don't have any artificiality in extra high rates. You're going to know exactly where you are. It overcomes another argument raised by some of the opponents. Next item, you just implement a current PSC rule and you put it into law, and that is you restrict telephone companies from attempting to change basic local rates set by the commission until at least 90 days after any final order. There were some arguments raised by opponents. I think Senator Schmit and others said, well, there would be the possibility that they could just come back and try something the next day. So what we have done, we have taken exactly what the rule of the PSC commission is as of today and has been, and we put that physically into the law so that there is no question on that. Finally, we specify that if any act or part of the act is declared unconstitutional...in other words the severance clause. If any act is declared unconstitutional, blah, blah, blah, the balance and the amendments themselves are actually explained on the back of the fuchsia handout. That means red? Why didn't you say red? On the back of the red handout, on everyone's desk. (Laughter.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR DECAMP: How many know what fuchsia means? Is that right. I never heard of it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Don't feel bad, Senator DeCamp, I have trouble with big words myself. I want to just bring a couple of points