

SENATOR DECAMP: Say the question exactly again.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Will the courts determine the actual cost?

SENATOR DECAMP: The commission and, of course, they've got 50 or so years of history and records and court cases and decisions and everything that identify that very clearly.

SENATOR SCHMIT: But what about the courts? Will they play any part if we get into court on trying to determine what actual costs are?

SENATOR DECAMP: If ultimately something is appealed to the courts, the rules would be the same as they are now, and they would go on the basis of court decisions and all of these things, and that is the same way it is now. But I don't see that we are changing that at all.

SENATOR SCHMIT: All right. Then is it your intent that under your bill the Public Service Commission would actually determine the actual costs at this time?

SENATOR DECAMP: That is correct and that is...

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...not changing. By the way, Bell has 95 exchanges, LT&T has 137 exchanges.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you very much. Senator DeCamp has made mention of several different issues here, which I think deserve to be commented upon. I'm running out of time. I just want to say this, he said we change the petition process so that you cannot just come back the next day after the rate increase has been denied and file a new rate increase. We stretch it out to 90 day. Well, big deal, 90 days. You can't hardly get the powder dry from the last time and they will be around again with another petition process. I can guarantee you that under those conditions you can be assured that the people will tire very rapidly of that kind of a process. I want to emphasize again, ladies and gentlemen, that the DeCamp bill is not deregulation. The DeCamp bill is deregulation of pricing and monopoly of territory, monopoly of territory. Freedom to price at will, but we have built a fence around the territory. Now I would suggest that any one of you in here would like to go into business with