

state. My issue at this point deals with the concern that we have heard expressed here regarding measured versus the flat rate service and the concerns that businesses have expressed, low income elderly and the public in general. I have talked with the different telephone companies. Bell, for instance, is the only one at this point that has what they call measured service. Thirty thousand of their customers have elected to take measured service versus flat rate because, in fact, what it has done for them is allow them to provide services at a lower level by approximately \$4.00 a month. On the other hand, the next company, which is LT&T, which happens to serve my area, does not provide that kind of service at this point. In talking with those people that are concerned about business rates and the fact that if deregulation were indeed to come to pass by this bill, those companies would have no restrictions on them. There would be no commission oversight which could prohibit them from just making it mandatory that the area that they serve would be provided measured service if it were in the best interests of that company to provide only that kind of service. So this amendment that I have simply ensures the option for either where measured service is offered, and I will just read it to you, you have it on your desk. It simply says, "The Commission may order that flat rate services shall be available whenever measured service is implemented", and that for such services the price restrictions prescribed in Sections 1 through...it will have to be changed now because of the fact that we struck, I understand, a section, but when I put this together it was 1 through 12 of this act shall be retained. And I guess I simply am saying to you that if you want to make provisions for Public Service control, if you are, in fact, really concerned about elderly, business and particularly the public in general, then please support this amendment because it is going to help make that a little bit tighter in that area. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Withem, please. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President and members of the body, I had a question I was going to ask Senator Smith, I was going to ask her privately, but as long as my light came on as quickly I will ask her, for the record. I see you talk about flat rate service, then you talk about measured service, and then you say that for such services the price restrictions prescribed in Sections 1 to 12 of this act shall be retained. When you say "such services", are you referring to flat rate services or measured service? The question is what it modifies.