

February 11, 1980

LB 615

SENATOR WAGNER: Very definitely, Rex.

SENATOR HABERMAN: They approve of this?

SENATOR WAGNER: Yes, I have a lot of letters from county boards across the area that they very definitely support it, they need it, they want it. It is a morale problem. They have got all kinds of problems.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the Clerk will read the amendment on his desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp moves to amend the committee amendments. Senator, this one is not in the Journal. Did you have it passed around?

SENATOR DeCAMP: I think we have got enough copies we will get it passed out. Rather than read it, I can just explain it. This is Senator Wagner's and my amendment. Is that correct, Senator Wagner? And what we are doing maybe is trying to save time since we are trying to alter the committee amendments we are just offering at this time as an amendment to the committee amendments and it does basically three things. It says employees, public employees get twenty-one cents. It says the sheriff gets twenty-four cents. Now you say, why should a sheriff get more? Because we are talking about a different vehicle, a different situation, different duties. He has an emergency vehicle. He has to go out on a run and generally leave the vehicle running with its lights going and all that. He is sitting there burning gas when the vehicle isn't even going. There is a real serious question as to whether twenty-four cents even comes close to covering a sheriff's actual expenses, particularly with high-priced gas and high-priced vehicles. You are also talking about a larger vehicle with one big gas guzzling engine. So we feel there is a legitimate reason to say those sheriffs should get the twenty-four cents. Okay, the next thing we are saying, look, rather than have...why don't you get copies of that made and passed out...rather than have one employee over here driving his car and getting fifteen or sixteen or seventeen cents, another one getting nineteen, another one twenty, say, twenty-one is it. That is a minimum. That is what you should get if you are a public employee renting your time and your car to the state. You shouldn't have to subsidize and hopefully at twenty-one, as I said, maybe it