

DeCamp-Wagner amendment just adopted: On line 23 strike "twenty-one" and insert "eighteen and one-half".

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, as I indicated, what I am offering is to reflect the amendment that was adopted in the Appropriations Committee Friday relative to LB 652 which dealt only with state employees which was at the eighteen and a half cent level of reimbursement. The reasons again, very briefly, included the consideration of the IRS arguments and this has been repeated several times already. Secondly, the second fact that entered into our discussion was the cost of operating state owned cars which including all costs to the state came out about seventeen cents. Their actual operating expense not counting the replacement cost was slightly over nine cents for 1979 and I guess the import of our position would be, of the majority of the members, was that the encouragement of use of state cars, at least when possible, were more economical than to have the reimbursement at a level that encouraged the use of private vehicles. I mentioned the cost factor and that is merely for your information, not an advocate one way or another as to what it comes out, because whether we use 615 or 652, the A bill will accompany as far as the state is concerned in the appropriation that is required. But I think if we are talking about actual out of pocket expense based on the information that we have reviewed comparing what other, the private sector reimbursement as of September, at least, generally was in the area of seventeen cents, although there were obviously some exceptions to that but when you consider that the cars that are driven in the vicinity of 15,000 miles a year or more that the current level proposed of eighteen and a half does fairly close consider all costs, not just gasoline costs, that it is a reasonable figure to arrive at, and as I have indicated the amendment does represent what a majority of the committee wish to see advocated.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Warner amendment to the DeCamp-Wagner amendment. Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. President, I don't want to take a lot of time. I do have an amendment pending up there that says if a state vehicle is available they have got to use it. I am not opposed to that and I think that will resolve half of Senator Warner's arguments, that if there is a vehicle, not just a state vehicle, but if there is a school vehicle available, a county vehicle available, a welfare vehicle available, a university vehicle available, they will use it. We have got 20,000 of them. It costs more