March 6, 1981

LB 74

want to see any of the parks closing sometime in August because the Games and Parks Commission cannot no longer meet the expenses. Asking for a fifty cent increase, raising it from \$1.50 to \$2 is not a very big increase. Lowering it back to \$1.50, as I said, would be a loss and with the threat of the federal funds that we may be losing in the future, and it is not definite, but the way things are going in Washington, there is a very good possible chance that we will be losing some funds, and I urge everyone to reject again Senator Chambers amendment, leave it at \$2 as it is now, \$5 for the annual permit, and I believe Senator Nichol is going to make a correction in the language on his amendment so it will read that there are no duplicates, \$5 for an annual permit, \$2 for a daily permit, and I think that is not asking too much of anyone and we have got to remember that the users are the ones that should help pay for our state park system and I urge you to reject this amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, we are now down to a third of a gallon of gas, 50¢, one third of a gallon of gas approximately. That won't even get most cars backed out of the garage and put in again. Please, 50¢, we have had inflation. It costs a great deal more to keep the parks up in repair, in shape, and I would bet that most people that are fighting a little raise in the park entry permit are going to be the ones that complain the loudest if every bit of paper isn't picked up or the latrines are not clean or a dozen other things. Please, let's leave it at \$2. That is not enough but at least let's don't pass Senator Chambers amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, do you want to close on your amendment to your amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Just briefly, Senator Labedz wasn't able to point out that federal funds are cut off or that there is any loss to the parks and to leave the fee where it is for another year I don't think will hurt anything. There were a number of fees raised yesterday in two other bills. There is a fee increase when you read the way this bill exists now, so for the casual user of the park, I think it is reasonable to leave the amount at \$1.50. That is my close and I hope you will adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House if the adoption of the Chambers amendment to the Chambers amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record.

1510