

Hall, if I make some remarks that are incorrect, please correct me. As I understand it, this bill started out that it would affect only Omaha and Lincoln, and now from looking through my material and listening to Senator Hall, it's going to be statewide. I would like to draw to attention of the body that they're setting up a new committee or a commission or what have you, of seven people, the Public Service Commission is planning on having offices in Omaha and Lincoln. The '89-90 cost is \$210,000. My figures show that the fiscal impact ranges from 93,000 at one cent surcharge to a million dollars at ten cents, and I understand that it is ten cents. So I'm wondering if Senator Hall would please explain to me, my figures here, that it is a million dollars. Is that going to the telephone company or who...where is the money going and who is going to pay it?

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Senator Haberman, the money would be...the way the bill is currently drafted, it would be assessed based on the determination by the Public Service Commission as to how much revenue would need to be raised to cover the cost of this system. The system would be mandated by the state to the telephone companies. The relay system would be set up and it would be paid for by those individuals who have phones, not just the individuals who use the system, but all phone users.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Every individual in the state that has a telephone would be assessed for this impartial hearing or hard of hearing issue. Is that correct?

SENATOR HALL: That's correct and the estimates at present would lead us to believe from the Public Service Commission that it would be about four cents.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Four cents? But it could go as high as ten cents?

SENATOR HALL: That's correct. The bill was drafted to allow from one to ten cents.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well four cents would raise yearly \$375,000. That would...well that's what the fiscal note shows.

SENATOR HALL: Oh, I believe you.