

PRESIDENT MOUL: Proceed to vote on the adoption of the Baack amendment to LB 133. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the amendment? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Baack's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, this is an amendment that I discussed with Senator Baack and he had a positive reaction to, but he actually didn't get back to me before he had to leave, on the amendment. So I don't represent this to you as anybody's amendment but my own. And the purpose of the amendment, which has been passed out to you, is simply I have become conscious over time of little bills that keep coming back to us and coming back to us and coming back to us and a number of these bills are situations where we set a dollar amount limitation on something and then there is inflation, then the bill comes back to us and so we have kind of a regular workload. In some cases, we can't avoid this but in other cases I think we can and I think it doesn't make sense that it comes back to the legislative body when it could go someplace else. Getting to the point, in this particular bill, LB 133, there is a surcharge that's not to exceed 50 cents per month. And that's fine for now. A year or two or three years from now we will be back with another bill before us with another dollar amount. So what I...what my amendment would do is simply say that 50 cents is the limit but when the time comes that that should be reassessed, then the Public Service Commission would have the authority to establish, by rule and regulation, a higher cap. And all that has the effect of doing is making the Public Service Commission, as the administrative unit, the determiner of the cap rather than coming back to the Legislature every time we have to do it in order for us to make this little addition in what I think is a much more expensive forum and probably a forum with less expertise than the Public Service Commission. That's the suggestion. It's...I hope it's