

May 1, 1991

referring them directly to General File, suspend the rule that requires X number of days of notification of publication, hold the hearings on a fairly fast track, try to get the bills referenced on to General File, but at least give the public an opportunity to participate in the process. I'm not trying to throw a roadblock into the appropriations process. I think we could probably...I'm not necessarily trying to give more work to the Appropriations Committee. There's a couple of these that could conceivably be referred to committees other than the Appropriations Committee. But we'd have an opportunity for those affected groups to come forward and give us their views on how the bill might impact upon them, propose alternative solutions to the problems that the bills seek to correct. Frankly, that would be my preference. So I probably am not going to be voting for this particular suspension of the rules.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Well, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I would echo what Senator Withem said. The CDL portion that doubled the fees is something that Transportation Committee has worked on over the past four years, five years, I guess when we talk about this session. And we were one of the first states to get involved with that. And at the time, when we discussed these with the Motor Vehicle Department, and, granted, the heads have changed in that department, but at that time it was brought out that it could be done for the \$20 figure, now all of a sudden, without a public hearing, they want to raise it up to \$40. So I think that we need to look long and hard at that, because it's only been in effect for four months. And I don't think in four months they can tell exactly what their costs are going to be, whether it's going to be \$20, or \$40, or \$30. So I would go along with Senator Withem, and I will not be supporting this, and I hope the others do not, that we at least can go to public hearings. That's one of the reasons we have public hearings. So thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beyer. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, I understand the concern of the body about this. If it would be possible to suspend the rules some way and have the hearing, I think it would be legitimate. What we ran into was quite a large increase in general funds. And as we compared surrounding states and so forth, it seemed, in our overview, that it was