

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 23, 1999 LB 359

reasonable charge. It is used. It's about a six to eight thousand dollar a year item and I would urge your adoption of this amendment to Senator Pedersen's bill.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, Speaker and members. Just want to state that I've read over this amendment and find it to be friendly to the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wehrbein, would you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, I was distracted during part of your explanation so you don't have to go through the entire thing, but could you tell me again what your amendment is going to do?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This allows the agency, in this case the Commission of (sic) Deaf and Hard of Hearing, to continue to charge for services that they have needed for interpreters. It's something they have been doing, but the AG's Opinion has said it's unclear that they're authorized to charge and so this makes it clear that they're authorized to charge. It's about a six to eight thousand dollar per year Cash Fund that they have for services that, when appropriate, they charge for, and this authorizes that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Whom do they charge?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Those that is...that'd be the users of the service and you. It's mostly public entities that need a interpreter present.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so we're not talking about the people who are actually deaf and hard of hearing...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No.