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

March 24, 2006 LB 1222

annual budget report. These counties have not been doing...some of them have not been doing this, I should say. They must be accounted for. And, as I said, the telecommunications company collects these fees. They're set by the county, but collected by the telecom and submitted to the counties, I believe it's once every 90 days, quarterly. Section 11 establishes the landline surcharge shall be assessed at up to \$1. There are some counties that aren't assessing...or simply don't have the surcharge in place. It gets them up to speed. provides that a service supplier must report the number of customers and the amount of service charges collected. That way we have a check there also on the telecoms. Dropping down to Section 18, I briefly mentioned this when we were trying to frame the issue. It defines a prepaid customer, and this is going to be more and more of an issue with an amendment that will follow. We have extended a deadline in order to get the prepaid customers submitting the surcharge, but we define a prepaid customer and eventually are going to have to address these prepaid wireless customers so that we have them also contributing to the fund. Section 20 of the amendment provides that the reseller must collect the surcharge and remit it. As I said, there's an amendment following that does a couple of things with this surcharge on the cell phones. The committee amendment says it shall be \$1...or 70 cents, I'm sorry, 70 cents across the state. It gets, AM2745, which will follow, reduces to 50 cents in the metropolitan city, or county, meaning Douglas County, which is the way it is with the landlines now; that they currently are capped at 50 cents. That amendment will be to the committee amendments and follows on your gadget there. Dropping down to Section 24, I know I'm skipping some sections, but in the interest of time we're going to have to for now. Section 24 states that a wireless carrier for eligible cost compensation may be limited based upon the mechanism established by the Quite frankly, I forgot to mention in my opening that this bill was actually ... a similar bill was introduced last The commission came to the Telecommunications Committee wanting a dollar and a half cent (sic) surcharge, and we simply balked at that; said we didn't have the information we needed to justify a dollar and a half cent...or \$1.50 surcharge per cell phone per month. Had the interim hearings and we arrived, with a lot of committee discussion, I should say, at 70 cents.