

General File debate the early estimates were that there would not be as great a need as there has been for the relay system. What has happened, I believe, is that there has been dramatic growth. I do think that that is going to level off and that was one of the concerns that I had when we were looking at raising the access, or the subscriber charge to 25 percent or 25 cents. I would support Senator McKenzie's amendment to reduce that to 20 and I would hope that the PSC would find that to be adequate to service this program for a good number of years. I would urge you to adopt the amendment and advance LB 305 on to E & R for engrossing.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Madam President and members, I rise to support Senator McKenzie's amendment but I guess only voice somewhat of a frustration on this whole measure. I mean, as we started this process out, we certainly...it was a best guess unscientific method of determining how much it would cost. But as Senator Hall mentioned, there has been a dramatic growth and the amount this program has cost, it has cost more than they ever dreamed it would. Now I guess there is some comfort in knowing that maybe now that usage has leveled off but one of the things that I guess frustrates me is in this whole plan, this whole method of providing this service, there is no charge to those people. Now there's a good reason why we don't want to charge them, on the other hand, there is no...there is no time measurement they can talk and communicate as long as they want without ever having to pay the bill and that's a luxury that sometimes I guess I wish I would have on some telephone calls, but, as I said, it now appears that that is, that the usage has leveled off and will not continue to increase and so, with that, it sounds like the amendment makes sense and actually lowers it and, with that, I would support Senator McKenzie's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator McKenzie.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Yes, Senator Moore, I need to clarify I think a point you may not understand about the toll charge that is paid by the person who uses the dual relay system. They do pay, right, they do pay for the long-distance call, but they do not pay additional amounts to support the facilities, the personnel and there is some prorating that takes place because of the time involved in the long-distance call. It is a lengthier conversation due to the interaction between the personnel in the