

SENATOR HALL: I was parroting what I read in the local rag. But, anyway, Senator Schimek, (laughter) the question that I have is with regard to the change that you make in this amendment. Is it possible that two state employees could receive different mileage reimbursements, depending on which department they work for?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Our understanding, Senator Hall, is no, that DAS will set the rate and it will apply.

SENATOR HALL: Well, I'm just looking at, and again I'm on page 1877 of the Journal, it's...I guess it would be AM1795. Is that what we're dealing with, or are we dealing with...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: AM1795, yes.

SENATOR HALL: Okay. Lines 16 through 19 there, and it just says, requests shall be computed based on the rate established by the Department of Administrative Services, period. And it says, the department may establish different rates based on whether the personal automobile usage is at the convenience of the agency involved or at the convenience of the state office or employee, as previously agreed upon by the office or employee and the agency involved. And I don't know if that allows DAS the ability to treat one department differently than the other. I don't think that...I understand that that's not what your intent is. But I just, for clarification sake, I would think that what...if all that we're trying to do is have...give DAS the flexibility to adjust these as necessary, rather than have distinctions drawn between departments, I'm in total support of that concept. But I just question...my question to you is, is that what this reads?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Hall, in talking with legal counsel, he believes, and I guess I do too, that it would...the language would permit the department to have different rates based on whether it is a personal automobile or state owned automobile.

SENATOR HALL: Why would...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Now, I would...I am not absolutely certain of what the department, if that was their intention or not. And I would like to check that out.

SENATOR HALL: And I guess one way to read it would be to read