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SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I think they put in excess of \$40 million into Educational TV. Now, some of that was part of a transponder, but...but in terms of digital, we've sunk considerable state monies in to digitize a lot more than what we're talking about here to do our own television.

SENATOR BOHLKE: And the reason being that we recognize it as a necessity to bring public television into the new age of digital and we're willing to commit the dollars to make that possible.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We are and, of course, they'll compete directly with the commercial TV so you've used...

SENATOR BOHLKE: Which is where I was going with that, in that we now have set up public television that certainly, obviously, are in competition with the TV station, as you mentioned, in Hastings or anywhere else that may be having to make this same conversion. And so, philosophically, it seems to me that we have recognized the cost of a conversion to digital, we have recognized that that was a cost we are willing to assist public television with. Yes, this is private industry, they go for a profit, but we have "incented" someone in public...in the public domain that they really are in competition with private. And so, therefore, that certainly helped in my support of the bill as it came out of the Revenue Committee and I think it's important for the people on the floor to recognize what we have done for public television and deciding...recognizing the costs of moving to digital and, if we're setting up competition, how fair that is for private companies. Having had that discussion, made that point, Senator Kristensen, do you...would you like the rest of my time or...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I would. Thank you, Senator Bohlke, I appreciate the opportunity. It is true that we've recognized this federal mandate is not one that anybody welcomed. It's expensive for all of us. It's expensive for the state because we've taken our television system and done that, but, at the same time, I think Senator Beutler raises a point that needs to be addressed and that point is what about federal mandates, do we fund every federal mandate that comes down. And I don't think you can blanket say, yes, we're going to do it to all of them. I don't think that you can blanket say no to all of them