

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

February 26, 2001 LB 243

or not, I would ask you that also, Senator Schrock. Is this the first time that we've employed this? Or seems to me we did it in one other occasion on some limited form but I can't quite recall when or where.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Beutler, I believe the Quality Jobs Act also allowed this type of provision.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Well, then I might stop right there. Does the Quality Jobs Act, as it would be purported to be reinstated, have this kind of provision in it?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I can't answer that, Senator Beutler. I don't know.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is there...as I understand the language of this bill, it's pretty broad when it comes to economic development projects, so I assume that we don't have the Quality Jobs Act anymore, so we don't have this provision anywhere in law. But if we reestablish the Quality Jobs Act with this provision, this bill would nonetheless expand from that to all different types of economic development projects. Is that...is that accurate?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct, Senator Beutler, but I do think you should note we have written in safeguards so that we can't have the power company giving power away. They have to charge a rate that more than covers the cost of them providing electricity to that particular business.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So they have to charge the rate that...the marginal rate. What is it that they don't have to charge under this bill?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, I assume that they don't have to charge a rate that everyone else is paying, like you said earlier. This could be a different rate. But it has to be a rate that is more than the cost of providing electricity, more than a delivery charge. And after five years, then they will pay the rate everybody else pays. And it has to be a type of a company that has a pretty constant load because, as the bill states, the