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LB 827

this is a great improvement and I will happily support the amendment and, if that's successful, I will support the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. We are on AM1303, the Bromm amendment to LB 827. Senator Robak, on that amendment.

SENATOR ROBAK: Senator Bromm, could I ask you a question, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bromm, would you yield, please?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes.

SENATOR ROBAK: On your...on this compromise amendment, could you tell me if the public power companies now are excluded from competing with the telephone companies for broadbands, or Internet, or providing service?

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Robak, I think I would have to answer that by saying the bill actually sets up a structure whereby they, the power company, could provide dark fiber, which could be leased to someone other than the telephone company incumbent, and that could provide competition.

SENATOR ROBAK: It could?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes.

SENATOR ROBAK: They could lease it or sell it, if they chose to, public power could?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes, yes.

SENATOR ROBAK: But they can't...they are not allowed to compete with the telephone companies right now.

SENATOR BROMM: They're not...they're not allowed to operate a telecommunications business or company within their structure, but they can lease or sell the fiber to a company that does.