

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

March 9, 2004 LB 78, 888

something that is a disqualifying factor, you need to weigh these. Express preference of the residents. Who do they want to have serve them? The proximity to the gas mains. Who is closer? The orderly development of natural gas infrastructure. Where is it logical to put a pipeline? The impact of granting an application on the existing and future ratepayers of a system. What's it going to do to the existing ratepayers to extend? The elimination and prevention of duplicative redundant natural gas mains. One pipe, not two. The willingness and good faith of the natural gas utility to provide adequate and dependable service. Whether they want to and they're capable of doing it. And whether or not the customers in the area have the right to vote for the natural gas rate and service quality regulator in the area.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: Those are the eight criteria I wrote down. By the way, you'll find them reflective of LB 78, although not identical to LB 78 existing policy.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay. Thank you, Senator Landis. And I'm glad that both financial considerations and ratepayer considerations are in that list. And I think they do sound fair. I agree with Senator Friend. I can understand him wanting to make sure his new bicycle gets across the finish line. And I also can appreciate a little speed in jet propulsion in what Senator Landis is attempting to do. So I'm glad Senator Landis is serious about what he's doing, but also likely that the amendment will be pulled, but that the issue does need attention and that Senator Landis has, I think, a good proposal in seeking resolution to that issue. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Erdman just stopped by and accused me of being a bully. And I wouldn't want to try to take a bike away from Mike Friend, my pal. Here's what I think should happen. I think we should have a grain of salt with what we hear from the lobby. And I