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LB 48, 748

off we go. Senator Bourne mentioned they'd come out to McCook or Chadron. McCook happens to be in my district. I don't think that that's going to happen, but it would allow it. So I can simply sum up what Senator Landis said. We can address our needs in LB 48. I'm going to support the motion to indefinitely postpone LB 748 and we'll go from there. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Erdman, on AM1493.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I yield my time to Senator Friend.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Friend, you have almost five minutes.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Thank you, Senator Erdman. Senator Baker made some good points. I share his fear. I share his fears in regard to a bill like this. Frankly, I...and I think it's a little premature to discuss LB 48, but it is next up on the agenda, and my fears would echo throughout that debate as well on LB 48. But here's the kicker. There is no way...Senator Baker spoke of socializing this business. I don't know how it could become more socialized. One...I really believe we have to proceed with caution, not only on this bill but the next bill, and again I don't want to characterize LB 48. That will have its time. But I think we need to proceed with caution, period, and let me give you a little bit of a background on this. The lobby's hair has been on fire. We all know that. We had probably a week and a half to deal with both of these bills, maybe two weeks to deal with both of these bills in the committee, myself included. I don't know how much of it you can take. Both these bills came out virtually unanimously, and I don't mean to throw a wet blanket over the whole thing, but I don't know if we have the answer here at all. We've studied this some would say for years. I think Senator Landis could probably back that up. I haven't. I don't...you know, I don't think the committee has had a sufficient bite of the apple yet. There are huge concerns that weren't addressed yet in committee with either of these bills, one of them being everybody keeps talking about the investor-owned versus the public utilities and