

February 10, 1992 LB 307

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment as offered by Senator Will.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is adopted. Senator Will, do you wish to speak on the bill?

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I would just indicate that this is a semihistoric moment in what has become to be known as gas wars, in that we have the two parties holding hands in the Rotunda and both telling you to vote to advance this bill. So I think we shouldn't talk it to death and we should just do that. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Wehrbein, do you wish to address?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. I congratulate you, Senator Will, on an apparent accord on SI...I do have one question, and it's simply that I want to be clear in my mind. I've only been peripherally involved in the issue. But when you say...when they...to determine the economic feasibility, and I...it says, all books, records, vouchers, papers will be filed with the secretary of the board of directors of the district and shall be open to public...that was what will determine the feasibility is what the public think? I mean there's no standard there, so that...how will that be determined in the ultimate? There still could be a discussion as to whether economic feasibility is there, is that right?

SENATOR WILL: Yes, certainly, I'm sure there may come a point where MUD is arguing, yes, this is economically feasible, and People's Natural Gas may say, no, it's not. At that point those records would be open, both parties could go in. Obviously, MUD would have the records anyway, but People's could go in and develop an argument and say, this isn't economically feasible and here is why. And they could present that argument to the MUD board of directors. Ultimately they could present that argument in court, if they wanted to.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, so that would be where it may ultimately end up. It does make...is that...

SENATOR WILL: It could.