

considered on some other measure. I think Senator Beutler has kind of convinced me that 828, if it is going to be part of the package that receives the special sort of scheduling treatment, the special sort of consideration that we are talking about, that that ought to remain as part of the overall package. But I, quite frankly, I think I would be persuaded somewhat by the Maurstad argument, and the Owen Elmer argument that I know he will be making shortly, that maybe this is the tool we ought to have for our utilities to deal with their other large consumers. But I think we could probably make a fairer judgment on that if it is separate from LB 828. So at this point, I will not be supporting the Maurstad amendment, but I remain open to be convinced on the policy arguments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. I want to make just a couple of things clear as we approach the noonhour. First of all, you know I have fallen probably into the trap of being an incoming senator and silly enough to read these bills, silly enough to spend the time to read these amendments. There hasn't been anybody contact me relative to offering this amendment, this, and it very well might not be a good idea at this stage, and as I continue and use part of my five minutes to get to the noonhour, I might talk myself into maybe taking a different course of action here. But good or bad, this is my idea, and so I'm willing to stand with that. And, secondly, I advance the idea because if the premise that it's good for projects like Micron or Pfizer, then I have to be consistent in my mind that it is also good for an unknown project that might be out there, that might be in my particular district, or in a district out in the central part of the state that might have the unique aspects of being a high generator of electricity. And so as I indicated when I opened on the amendment, it might be a part of a puzzle that might be successful in creating more jobs into the rural area. Part of the premise of why this was good for Micron, and there was support for this, is if you increase the generation and you have a large user of electricity, such as what we are talking about here, it is well-outlined in 828 relative to the demand load and the minimum annual load factors, it causes rates to be reduced for everybody else. There is economy in scale, for the lack of better words or terminology, involved in the reason why we would provide an incentive or why utility companies would provide an incentive to somebody that used large demands of electricity in a certain