

incentives, but then at the same time argue when it's convenient that government should not be involved in this area. Government ought to sell their interest in public power, in public utilities so that those of us in the private sector who would use this benefit if it...they were capable of, they were entitled to it under the act, they would be the first to sign up and enlist the local board of directors of the district to grant them a reduced rate in these areas, but at the same time arguing that privatization is the way that utilities ought to be run, it will be the most effective and the most efficient. That's one of the reasons, frankly, for the 15 year amendment is to guarantee that these entities will be there providing this type of service. If we lock in a contract that says for 15 years, because once we allow for the 15 year ceiling it will become the floor, it will not be the...from zero to 15,...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...it will become the standard by which you have to meet that threshold. It will be the minimum number of years that will be put into the proposal. By allowing for 15 years I believe what we're doing is saying that in most cases what will happen is that we're going to, in a sense, protect, to some degree if at all possible, public utilities. At a minimum if those public utilities are sold they'll have to be sold knowing that these contracts are in place and that they, the liability for them, goes to the individual who assumes or buys out that public utility. And I believe that the standard of 15 years at least makes people recognize that these kinds of contracts are in existence and that the use of public utilities for this end is a...

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...good purpose. I would urge adoption of the Hall amendment to 828. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Beutler, on the Hall amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature, I would hope that we would not adopt the Hall amendment. There is a certain logic to it and there is a certain subjectivity to the five year rule. However, I would just mention two things. First of all, those who are most interested in development at