

annual basis, but the policy question that we talk about is one of allowing these districts to now get into the area of economic development, and it's, basically, up to the board of directors of that district to decide, you know, what they are going to do in terms of assisting expanding businesses, including home-based businesses, provide assistance to a local or regional industrial, economic development corp or foundation, and it doesn't even have to be within the district. It says, located within or contiguous to the district's service area. We are talking about providing youth and adult community leadership training, and assistance with enhancing the educational technology available to community schools. We are now saying that we are going to allow public power districts to, I guess, provide computers to grade schools that aren't even within their district. They just have to...all they have to do is be contiguous. I guess my question is, are we going to debate this at some point in time?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes.

SENATOR HALL: When?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Between now and Select.

SENATOR HALL: Okay.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: We're using...what this does, this uses federal funds that are available, but we have agreed with Senator Preister and Senator Beutler to, before Select, to debate this and try to get it worked out.

SENATOR HALL: Well, it doesn't...it doesn't mean...the way I read it, it doesn't necessarily require the use of federal funds. I mean the funds are there. They build in the limitation, but I would read it to say that possibly it says or loans to promote economic development. I guess my question is that this is a major policy question that ought to be addressed and probably not on a consent calendar bill. That's all. I want to take a look at it and I think that the Legislature ought to debate this, whether it is in the form of using up the fifteen minutes here and pulling 120 or not. I guess I won't today, but I promise that I may very well on Select File just because I think this is a big enough change in this area that it deserves some thorough debate. With that, Madam President, thank you.