

elected?

SENATOR PREISTER: That is correct.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: The only problem I have with this bill, as I do with many more like it, is we have more and more people pushing for local government and more local control. And for us to get out of that, and here's...and I see this bill as another one that the Legislature is mandating to another elected board how they should act when the people are already voting for them. Do you have any response to that type of a question when they...when your constituents call?

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator Pedersen, I agree that there are elected members of that board. This isn't mandating all that much, it's just putting in statute that we, as a body, believe it's important that we look at all sources of available methods of generating our future electrical needs. And at this point what we have in the bill is mainly mirroring federal statutes. So we're really not putting very much in at all that is telling them to do anything differently.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Well, if we're just telling them how we feel, then we probably could have done that easier with a resolution, I think.

SENATOR PREISTER: Well, we...Senator, we couldn't have repealed the section that gave preferential treatment to nuclear energy, which was put into statute in 1959, when we had a whole lot different information, and that's real important right now.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Preister, you're now recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you very much. Thank you for the questions, other senators. And with that, I would just say that concerns that may arise out of what we're amending out of the bill, which weren't a part of it originally, can still be dealt with in other fashions. And I appreciate Senator Schellpeper's willingness and also Senator McKenzie's willingness in working with me on this and the utilities and all of the other people