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benchmark into statute? And if not ever, then I would be interested in the rationale as to why we cannot institutionalize that particular standard?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And let's begin with that series of questions before I've given you too many to remember.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Other than I...other than you pick up the phone when it rings, you pretty much exhausted me, but the percentage of penetration rate, the federal...the federal law and the rules and regs out of the FCC really do point to the desire to make phone service available to everyone. The problem is that if you put in we want to have a 99 percent penetration rate, you start to begin to tie to a number that may be hard to determine, and there are a certain group of people out there who don't want telephones regardless if you'd give it to them, for whatever reason. I don't want to be bothered by the telephone; I don't want to have people know who I am; I don't want to...you know, there's just a small percentage of people, there's not a lot of them, but there is a small percentage of people out there who just plain don't want that service. I find that hard to believe. I understand they are there. I am not aware of any target percentages or...in rule and reg, and I'm going to look here...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...in the universal report, and I'm going to look in the order from the commission again, just to double-check it, if I get a minute, to see where, if there is a penetration rate target rate, but I'm fairly sure I've never seen that percentage anywhere to do that. The other...the other issue is, should that be our goal? Yes, and the advisory board that's created and that was created by statute to help the administrator assist in giving out that money, if you read that statute, I think it embraces those same terms but, no, the specific answer to your question is I am not aware of a specific target or goal that's written in statute or rule and reg.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes