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SENATOR BEUTLER: Does the PSC currently have authority to do that? Or would that take a statutory change?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I think they could do that. I think it's an option that the Public Service Commission can do to do that. They've done...they've done the portion, they've done the 5.25, I know, because we've already had that in place, and that's about, oh, I'm guessing somewhere between 14, 15, 16,000 lines right now are eligi...are using that. I think there's more that's eligible but people aren't taking advantage of that. And that's...that's the Lifeline issue.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Doug, what, a million...?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We've got a total, we've...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...total number of lines would be roughly what, household lines?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...got probably a million...we've probably got a million lines in the state. So you're talking about a very small number of lines as compared to the total. The more important one that I think the people need to hear is, who is paying universal service and who is going to get universal service? Everybody is going to pay, so it's going to be on all those bills, but primarily what the effect of it, you're going to shift money from low cost areas to high cost areas. So if you assume that all high cost areas are outside of the metropolitan areas or, for example, a community like Kearney or Grand Island, perhaps, you will shift, however, primarily most of the money from those low cost areas out to the high cost areas, and that's the general trend, Senator. I mean that's what...and I think people need to understand that that's what's going to happen. Their phone bills are going to increase,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...and how much it's going to increase depends on how much they have for toll charges. So if they have a lot of...if you make...if you're an Omaha residence and you make a lot of calls to Lincoln, you're going to pay more