

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 78

violation of this section by a Metropolitan Utilities District an aggrieved utility could file suit based on the violation and would be entitled to an injunction prohibiting contact. It would also render any agreement obtained by a Metropolitan Utilities District in violation of this section as a void agreement. AM1069 also clarifies the requirement that a Metropolitan Utilities District separately account for water and natural gas on a reasonable basis. It further empowers the State Auditor to take whatever action is necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of that section. Essentially what we've done here with AM1069 is balance the interests of the investor-owned utility, the Metropolitan Utilities District, and the public. Provides a mechanism for resolving disputes so that hopefully future territory disputes do not have to be dissolved...or resolved here in the Legislature. The Public Service Commission is part of that mechanism to help resolve disputes. They have experience with rate cases. They have experience with utilities, so to speak. They work with telecommunications companies every day, and we thought they were the perfect choice to resolve some of these disputes. With that, I would yield my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bruning. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, announcement please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Business and Labor Committee in 2102 immediately; Business and Labor, 2102 now.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will now go to the committee amendments to LB 78. Senator Hartnett. (AM0614, Legislative Journal page 843.)

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker and mem...Mr. President and members, just elevated you, Senator Cudaback, no, Mr. President, members, I think Senator Bruning's...the...what Senator Bruning explains are the committee amendments as the bill and I think it was...it was...it was an agreement worked out between MUD and UtiliCorp or Peoples Natural Gas. Is a area of dispute dealing with serving of gas in the Omaha metropolitan area, both Douglas and Sarpy County, and I think Senator Bruning explained the amendments as were worked out by the interested party and I simply rise to support the committee amendments.