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Transcriber's Office

April 6, 1999

LB 78

SENATOR CUDABACK: Bruning, would you like to open on your amendment to the committee amendments? (AM1069, Legislative Journal page 1261.)

SENATOR BRUNING: Mr. President, members, the amendment to the committee amendments is the agreement. This is exactly what I've described in detail moments ago. So the amendment to the amendment is the agreement and I'd be happy, of course, to answer questions that other members of the body might have, but I think Senator Hart (sic) described it. The two parties have come to a meeting of the minds.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bruning. There are several lights on. Senator Beutler, do you wish to speak to the amendment to the amendment, or...?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I do, Senator Cudaback. Members of the Legislature, obviously a number of people have done a lot of hard work to come to some sort of agreement on this bill and it certainly wouldn't be my intention to upset or try to upset that agreement, even if I could. But I do think it's very important, at least for myself, to understand completely what's happening here and I think it's important for all of us to understand what's happening and what is not happening, not only because of natural gas itself and because of a study that Senator Hartnett has coming up on this matter that further deals with federal...the federal environment on this issue, but also because many of the ideas and concepts relate to electric utility restructuring and relate to the whole debate on private versus public suppliers of utility services. And so I would like to engage Senator Bruning, if I could, in a conversation...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you yield, Senator Bruning?

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that...

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes, (inaudible).

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that at least, Senator, will help me understand how the natural gas industry works in Nebraska generally, and how it works in the Douglas and Sarpy County