

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 78

SENATOR BRUNING: Senator Chambers, the dispute in the Omaha area was between Metropolitan Utilities District and Peoples Natural Gas over double piping and their territories.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you introduced this bill, correct?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: At the request of which one?

SENATOR BRUNING: At the request of UtiliCorp, Peoples Natural Gas.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is that a private company?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What is the ultimate end that a private company seeks?

SENATOR BRUNING: To make a profit.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What is the ultimate end that a public utility seeks?

SENATOR BRUNING: Well, in many cases, to make a profit as well, but to keep rates low for consumers I think is...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The public utility has the primary goal of working in behalf of the consumers. The primary goal of a private company is to make as much money as it can with as little expenditure as possible. Isn't that true?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, if no bill is passed at all, which of the two behemoths is injured, if either?

SENATOR BRUNING: Well, I would say that the public is injured because you'll continue to have double piping around the Omaha area.