

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 78

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Which of these two entities would be injured, is my question?

SENATOR BRUNING: Injured in what way, Senator? Financially?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Any kind of way. Neither would be injured, is that your position? Neither side would be injured if this bill is not passed. Is that true?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, if we leave well enough alone, we do maintain the status quo, obviously. Is that true?

SENATOR BRUNING: We do, Senator, but this leaves out the public's interest.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now let me ask another question. What is the status quo that you think is not good? What about the status quo is not good or in the public interest?

SENATOR BRUNING: The fact that double piping occurs on a regular basis and the reason this bill was brought to me, as I mentioned before, is Werner Enterprises, at the corner there of I-80 and Highway 50, is a large user of natural gas and the Metropolitan Utilities District double piped into the Werner area, which created two sets of pipes throughout the area. Anytime in a high construction area when you begin to dig, dig holes, dig for roads, dig for anything, you create, I think, a danger to the public with two sets of pipes that aren't readily identified as to whose pipe is whose.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But there's no danger created by virtue of the two pipes existing in that location, is there? It's not like you've got a volatile liquid or gas and beside that is a spark generating activity that might ignite the gas or the liquid. We don't have that kind of a danger, do we?

SENATOR BRUNING: I disagree, Senator. Anytime a giant backhoe hits a metal pipe it can spark, and that natural gas...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Let me ask the question a different way.