

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I suspect they didn't understand it and I wasn't able to answer them correctly, and I...I've got to call a couple people who asked me some questions. That's what I'm going to ask you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And I think maybe of the people might be interested too, or I wouldn't have brought it up on the floor. Now one of the questions they ask, and I've not been able to find an answer for sure and I'm sure you must know, is it possible for telephone companies now to blank out calls if they...if you request them?

SENATOR BEUTLER: They do have two or three different mechanisms, all of which work a different way and all of which are imperfect, but the answer is, yes, US West I think has a system for doing that. It's a system that involves an intervening message and it's a system that costs you about \$7 a month.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So it's...

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, one of the people who called me have been really harassed by these kind of calls and she is a handicapped person who has to struggle to get the phone and she was obviously very angry when she called me because she had been called four times that morning and by that time she was beside herself. And so she started visiting with me about these things and that's why I'm asking you some of these things and of other people who might be interested.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You bet.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And she wanted to know if there was any possible way that she could get her numbers blanked out, and I told her I'd have to check with the telephone company. She maintained that she had a talk with Aliant and they said there was no way that they could block her phone out from any calls.