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period of transition. But here the federal government has told them on date certain thou shalt change. If the federal government would come in and mandate that you had to get a computer with a "V chip" in your house so they could keep track of you on a certain date, you'd be outraged and you'd want to...then that would happen here.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand your argument. I guess my argument, from the other side of the coin, is that the TV stations can increase their revenues by...by the...raising their...their...and they can recoup it. I don't have any way to recoup mine when I have to pay the extra to get a new TV and I'm wondering why it's...why it isn't a fairness issue if...and I realize you...we're not going to attach a bill on that says everybody's going to get their television set exempt. That could go on forever, but...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: No, but we do it. For example, we've done it with food. I mean we do grant exemptions to people across the board for items that they deem were necessary.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I, yeah, but food you have to have; a television set I guess you could do without. Nobody does, but I guess you could do without. And the point of it being that this is a...this isn't a necessity; this is something that everybody would like to have. And I'm just making the point, I guess, that, from a realistic standpoint, we're trying to help out these people who are being required to get this equipment if they want to stay in business, as I understand it, but at the same time we're going to be required, and you say we can use them, I don't know how successful they're going to be from what my TV distributor tells me, that the sets you're now using are not going to be very...very usable with the new technology that's coming out. Which tells me, in a sense, that somewhere along the line I'm probably going to be required to buy a new TV set and you indicated right out front that they're going to be expensive. I checked what one of them is going to cost and they're going to be a tremendous amount more than television sets are costing now because of the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.