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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Pederson, I'm going to do my best to address this; and then I'm going to double check with the PSC people out behind the glass to make sure I don't misstate something for the record. But my feeling would be that in the situation you've described if there's a demand for a service that isn't being offered and if there is a third carrier or second carrier, third or fourth carrier that wishes to provide that service, it may be impossible for them to do so without the cooperation of that existing carrier that isn't interested in doing that. So, hopefully, with this kind of legislation, the Public Service Commission could bring some pressure to bear if that party that has the existing lines and connections, if they refuse to cooperate with a second party who wants to go through them and provide services, hopefully the Public Service Commission could facilitate that, encourage that. And if there's a violation of any kind of a commitment or a violation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which is a very broad act, federal side and we also had such an act here, then they could enforce that. And the party who is impeding this progress would know that they stand to be fined or suffer some significant consequences if they stand in the way of service and competition. Now that's my best take on that, but I will double check on my answer and be sure to clarify that.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Well, I think our people out in our area have been given the impression by the Public Service Commission that it's up to the Legislature to resolve this matter. They didn't seem to feel that they had the responsibility to do it. And I thought that was a certain amount of buck passing, to be honest with you. The other thing that I see occurring out in our area is that when a new house is being built in a certain area they will provide Internet access to that house. The house right next to it, they don't provide it because it's not a new service. And I just think we see some rather strange usage of the service that really ought to be more generally available to our public. And I...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...would appreciate it if you would check