TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 28, 2005 LB 645

high-speed switches, and so on. And that technology, and this is my personal opinion, is probably...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...fairly mature. And now we're looking at the issue of Universal Service Fund possibly being modified, and I say this is my opinion only, not the committee's particularly, but mine, that we need to look at transferring use of USF funds establishing separate fund to update us on wireless communications and so on. And that is something we will be looking at this summer as a committee. So this all fits into the puzzle. The bill, LB 645, is a part of the...one piece of that puzzle. But we need to take a look at this, and how it maybe would fit in other communications issue, whether it be wire line or wireless, and take a look and, you know, step back and take a look at the whole picture and come up with some recommendations. Some of this will be acted up with the USF fund I think next session after we have some interim hearings on that, and go from there. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Further discussion, Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Than you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. Enjoy listening to the discussion about what we have here, and it made me think of a few years ago. We were in San Diego, California for a meeting. And at that time, southern California and most of the western part of the country was under a power shortage, and some of the people that I watched on T.V. in the evening news, they were interviewing older people who were in dire need of power. They were paying an exorbitant amount for their public...for their power in that state, and it was costing some of those people to keep their air conditioning going, practically all of their pension checks or Social Security checks, you know, and I felt sorry for those people. And I got to thinking how fortunate we were to be living in a state that had public power, enjoyed plenty of power throughout the whole state, at a very reasonable rate. So I appreciate the kind of power we have here. And now...and then I think, let people do what they do best. Public power does a great job.