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FLOOR DEBATE

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I'm very supportive of it. But the telecommunications people also do a great job, you know. And technology is great and, you know, who's responsible for that? I believe the telecom people are responsible for the the communications and the advancements they've made in that area, but I also agree that the public power has provided power throughout this whole state at a very reasonable rate. You know, I like to look back 50 or 60 years and the comic strip character, Dick Tracy. Remember as a young boy looking at the two-way wrist radio that Dick Tracy had. How many of you here...Senator Chambers, I'm sure, can relate to that, Dick Tracy and his two-way wrist radio. We thought, what a piece of technology that must be. But here we are, you know, we've got all the things that happen in here. You know, how many of you are annoyed by those little gadgets that we carry around in our pockets that whistle and buzz and jingle? Especially in our committee hearings, we get very upset with them. But I think back at Dick Tracy and his two-way wrist radio and I think, you know, how lucky we really are to enjoy reasonable power rates and have all the convenience that we have. Who's responsible for that technology? I think it's a two-way street. Public power is responsible for bringing us power throughout the state, and the telecom people are responsible for giving us the technology we have. You know, I remember back when I first was in the Legislature, we were toying about the idea of doing away with the PSC. You know, grain elevators were going away, railroads were down to a couple in the state, and they didn't have a lot to do. They do now. They're overloaded with a lot of telecom problems and rail problems and so on. So, you know, thank goodness we still have them here. But I don't want to see cherry-picking throughout this state, from either side. So that's why I think that I am going to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...support this amendment and see if, over the interim, we come to some kind of agreement. I know it's going to be a give-and-take on both sides, and that's what this body and the two sides out behind the glass have to do, and I think we'll get the job done. With that, I stand in support of the amendment and Senator Brashear's bill. Thank you.