

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 28, 2005 LB 645

into the law, and then have a study. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Friend.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, one final distinction that I wanted to make, an interesting one. Heavily regulated industry, natural gas, for safety purposes, and another industry that's regulated for appropriate business reasons, for customer or rate payer protection, if you will. The reason that an idea like this one isn't a bad one is because, if you can prevent, like we mentioned before, the competition between large public corporate interests and large revenue-motivated corporate entities, you do it. And we're living to learn why that's the case. Since World War II we've had public natural gas, and we've had investor-owned companies competing against them. It's not fair. We know that, and there's nothing we can do about it. What we're doing here is taking a proactive approach, possibly, if the body agrees with it, to stop the potential unfair competition. That's all. Because here's my contention: If we don't, we will be, or could be, back in five or six years, saying, guess what? Qwest wants service territories. Hm, I wonder why. I wonder why. Qwest wants service territories. MCI...well, whoever...whoever it is. We can't compete anymore in this business. I don't want to see that. If we as a body determine that AM1334 onto to LB 645 is the right thing to do, I think we need to do it, to prevent, to be proactive. I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Brashear, if he so wishes.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Brashear, about two and a half minutes.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Thank you, Senator Friend. Everybody, of course, we all are free agents here. So everybody can be as intense as they want to. I thought, this is actually...this one's kind of amusing, I think. Maybe I have a strange sense of humor. I'd particularly beseech all my colleagues who were concerned about the libraries to listen to me, please. We'll all wish this one