

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

April 28, 2005 LB 645

you...how did you wish to...all members are present or accounted for. How did you wish to proceed, Senator Brashear? Machine vote? There's been a request for a machine vote. All in favor of the Brashear amendment, AM1334, to the committee amendments vote aye; those opposed vote nay. The question before the body is AM1334, offered by Senator Brashear, to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee amendments to LB 645. Have you all voted on the question who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Brashear's amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment has been adopted. I do raise the call.

CLERK: Senator Connealy would move to amend the committee amendments, AM1351. (Legislative Journal page 1336-1337.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Connealy, to open on AM1351 to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee amendment.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I laid this out a little bit at the beginning of the discussion this morning. I'm in support of a retail ban. I think that we don't want public power in particular involved in retail services of telecommunications. But I think that this bill goes farther than that. And because of the fact that we have a study that I think is needed on deciding how technology is going to be implemented within our different structure here in Nebraska, where our electricity system is owned by us, it's different than any other state, because of that, we have to maybe have a different model also in telecommunications than in other states. We ought to allow cooperation, we ought to allow wholesale, or at least discuss it. And if we ban it now and have a moratorium on wholesale, I believe that there's less pressure to have a good study, to do the work that needs to be done, so that we have everyone at the table to make the right decisions. So to that extent, I would take out "or wholesale" on page 2, line 6, thus continuing to ban, for the time being, any retail of...for public entities, and then also I would put a termination date on that section of the same termination date that we had on the