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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 48, 748

bottom line. They're going to be out there and they're going to come after us anyway. I think we need to proceed with caution, we need to be deliberate, and we need to find out as a body, Senator Landis is right, adopt these amendments, find out as a body if LB 748 is the way to go or if LB 48 provides a better answer. Me personally, right now at this juncture in this debate, I honestly don't think we have the answer in either of these bills. My yes vote is on both committee amendments. Forty-three years old, like I said last week, sometimes trouble just follows a man. I can't say that I'm the sharpest tool in the shed, but let me tell you this. If we can repair any of the damage that I...that could be perceived that I've done, I'd like to repair it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Members, we had a little glitch in our machinery up here and we do not know who...your lights will not be on. So, Senator Mines, Senator Janssen, Senator Connealy, Senator Stuthman, Senator Bourne, Senator Beutler, Senator Landis, Senator Thompson, Senator Friend, Senator Wehrbein, Senator Erdman, and Senator Kremer, so that's the order. We will go by this order. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, I'm going to take just a few minutes on this and then I'd like to turn my time over to Senator Beutler. I was fascinated by the discussion between Senator Bourne and Beutler. After hearing Senator Landis suggest that we adopt the amendments, move this thing to Select and just talk it to death, it makes...oh, you want to keep it here, don't you? Well, let's just talk about the bill. I'd like to hear both bills before I decide to IPP anything. I'm in the state that I think Senator Beutler is. I'm still trying to get my arms around where we're going with this. In principle, I have long believed that boundaries work. I come from a telecommunications background where we do have boundaries. We don't have public entities involved in boundaries, but we do have private, competitive businesses, but they are bound by territories. It makes sense to me. It also makes sense to me to allow utilities of a public nature that are doing a wonderful job to continue to grow, and I think there's a mechanism to accomplish that. I also am concerned by Section 5 in LB 748 that would allow public entities to sell excess