

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

May 9, 2005

LB 748

SENATOR BOURNE: ...seem to get along and craft an agreement.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne and Senator Connealy. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senator Bourne.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I've been doing some serious listening and some consideration on this bill. The thing that really does concern me, looking back at the history just three years ago, the bill that was passed, LB 784, 41 to 3, was that a direction that was not the direction to go? I think, you know, there was a lot of time spent at that time, and that was prior to me coming here to the Legislature. But the thing that I'm really upset about is that a lot of time was taken there; the bill was passed. Now we come up with, no, that wasn't good. That wasn't the right thing to do. Those 41 people, that was the wrong thing to do. Maybe it was, I don't know, but I tell you that was...that's a pretty solid vote, in my opinion. I will...I will agree with Senator Landis, you know, that we need to proceed with this thing and see how it comes out. But I would like to engage in a little conversation with Senator Friend, if I may, please. Senator Friend, if he would respond, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Friend, would you respond?

SENATOR FRIEND: Yes, I will.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Senator Friend, with this, the property that is owned by the private sectors, the pipeline that is in these communities, if the cities would take over that, where does that value go then, that asset?

SENATOR FRIEND: Well, it's my understanding that the municipally owned utility would have to...would condemn...would essentially go get that. The asset goes to the...it goes to the publicly owned utility and then I guess, for all intents and purposes, goes to the people of that district.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay, and if it...

SENATOR FRIEND: That's where the asset goes.