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LB 748

nothing to the privates by way of assurances that their territories are their own. Secondly, it does not limit the right of way to cities to their cities or their zoning jurisdiction. It says they can go anywhere without regulation by state government, including serving people that don't vote for the board. And third, for our no man's land, the one tool that we have to determine the public interest right now, it impliedly...it impliedly repeals it by allowing us to jump around and create town border stations without response to local...without response to the Public Service Commission and, by so doing, it allows us to leapfrog development. LB 748 violates every one of those neutral principles. It's why it is a one-sided bill that's designed to poke the other side in the eye and get advantage. Three neutral principles: You get where you are now; cities get the right of way where cities serve cities; and in no man's land you go to the Public Service Commission and demonstrate public interest before you carve up no man's land. LB 748 violates every one of those principles.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute. Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I represent District 14, which is one of the areas of the state that would be in the heart of these kinds of disputes, and just from some practical experience, just to mention one situation we did have, one of my cities did have the double piping issue. Couldn't figure out...there was a fire, an emergency situation; couldn't figure out who was serving the area, whose pipe it was. Spent a lot of time trying to sort through that. We shouldn't have public policy that encourages that. We should have, and I, you know, as someone who's leaving the Legislature, I know that the issue of service territories has been out there forever, but if we're going to have a mixed system of public and private, we really should have service territories, but we didn't get there. So Senator Bourne has introduced this bill, which Senator Friend described as an in-your-face bill, and that's exactly what it is. Senator Baker carried legislation that was...quite frankly, I wasn't...have never been a part of this because I've never sat on the committees that dealt with it, so I've been on it in a periphery