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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 645

committee amendments.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have no objection to the study conducted by the task force, none whatsoever. I would want to look at the makeup of it, and how selections are made regarding those who will serve on it. And Senator Preister raised some very good issues that I think need to be resolved, and we'll have the opportunity to do it. But if we enact in statute anything that changes anything from what it is now, we have tilted the playing field, to use that cliché. If you're going to talk about competition, and some suggest that public utilities or power entities are competing with private industry, let those private people get up and boogie and do what they need to do, and what they're able to do. But if what I've been told is correct, that this technology has not yet come to fruition, neither one of them is going to be able to do anything before the study is completed. Now, if what I've been told is not true, or if I have misunderstood, I'm going to have Senator Brashear help me undeceive myself, if he's willing to answer a question or two.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Brashear.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Certainly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brashear, there's a type of technology that this bill will deal with. Senator Mines said it's not wireless or whatever the other one was, and I thought I heard somebody say that this type of technology has not yet been developed or that it's not at a stage where it can be utilized. Is that true or false? And you can answer it with as much length and depth as you need to provide the opinion you want me to have.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You are making reference, I believe, to broadband over power line, which is called BPL.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: And so you're correct, that is not wireless.