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LB 645

service.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So...but if it did happen that there was some area that was not being served, the way this bill operates right now, could a public entity, either at the retail or...at the retail level serve those areas?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: As the bill stands now, a public entity could not serve at retail. No, it could not serve at retail, and then it would depend upon the legislative result of the study, if any. If there is any legislative result, you'd have to open it back up.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: It'd be an affirmative public policy decision.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You don't think that the possibility exists, as you're being informed, that there would be any rural areas that were not served, but would you have any objection to an amendment to the bill that would allow unserved rural areas to be served in the event that they were not?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: During the period of the moratorium, Senator Beutler, or...

SENATOR BEUTLER: No.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: ...under the ban?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Since your provision with respect to retail is permanent...

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: I think if we can...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I would suggest a permanent amendment.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: I always think in terms of being reasonable. That seems like if we can establish what is the unavailability of service, if we can establish that, then I think the