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LB 645

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, the items to be studied by the task force are laid out in this bill. Would you agree with that?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Yes, sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What you are telling me, if I understand you, is that there are people who are in private industry who would not participate in this study if these other items that I'm talking about were not a part of the bill. Did I understand you to say that, or do you mean something else?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: With all due respect, Senator Chambers, that is not correct and that is not what I'm telling you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then I would like to know what you're telling me.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: All right. Everything you went through was correct to the point where when you say people in the private industry would not participate. That's not what this is about. This is about the stick. We have the carrot and the stick, and this, what you're talking about now, is keeping the stick in place to compel everybody to come to the table and undertake in a meaningful way the study of specific questions and care about the outcome because they're going to be invested in the result.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, why would they not come if these other provisions are not a part of the bill? Are they...

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: There isn't anything in it for...there's no reason to collaborate if you can run off on your own. This is a collaboration to achieve the appropriate public policy with fiscal responsibility.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Brashear, it is true that even if everything was left in this bill the private sector could run off and continue to run off and run as far and as fast as it chose while public power suppliers are held stationary. Isn't