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City officials said they don't want to compete head-on, but aren't going to be held hostage to their profit concerns. Providers have shown no interest in setting up broadband wireless services, or offering free or discounted rates, they said. So I read you all this simply to indicate that there are things going on in other places that are certainly very interesting and involve...down in Texas, for example, cities such as Austin, that are apparently providing wireless networks for their whole downtown areas or for whole portions of the city, and apparently doing this...I'm not sure on what basis they're doing it, but all of them have found it necessary, for some reason, to use their municipal networks, their municipal power to get this sort of thing done. So...

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...the...that's all the time I have for now, but it certainly seems to me that it behooves us to try to understand a little better what the issues are on the national level and what is happening in some of these cities, because I don't think any city that I know of in this state has yet reached that point where, as an economic development tool, it's trying to provide a top grade, top level Internet system for a particular area of its city. It will be interesting to see if that can get done either privately or through public means. Certainly the end is great one way or the other. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Further discussion? Senator Raikes, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I am interested also in Section 5, and a couple, three points that I'm struggling to try to clarify in my own mind, and I'll just state to you where I end up on those. One is it's an unusual situation in, as I understand it, in public power or public entities that these entities are prohibited from doing something unless they have specific authorization. So, therefore, you see in Section 5 that this is not to be construed to restrict or expand any authority of a public power supplier,