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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 645

have been considered by the body previously. At that time, AM1334 by Senator Brashear and others was adopted. Now under consideration is an amendment to the committee amendment from Senator Chambers, FA210. (Legislative Journal page 1811.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Brashear, would you like to give us a quick summary review of what the bill contains, please?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, members of the body. To summarize briefly, LB 645, as amended, enacts a prohibition on all public entities from providing telecommunications services. It preserves the ability of all public entities to use telecommunications services for internal use related to their public purpose. It enacts a prohibition on public entities other than public power suppliers from providing telecommunications services on a wholesale basis. It enacts a moratorium on public power suppliers from providing telecommunications services on a wholesale basis, only until December 31, 2007. And it creates a task force to study the deployment of broadband over power line and other technologies, and those members are representative, to the best of my knowledge, of the various people who would have an interest in this legislation; permits for a professional facilitator of the task force; and requires a report to the Legislature, in order that it can exercise its continuing jurisdiction, and the report would be due December 1, 2006. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Baker, Transportation Committee, would you like to give us a summary on the committee amendments, please?

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Very briefly, yes, LB 645 came out of the Transportation Committee. It was designated the committee's first priority bill, and the amendment we adopted, I believe last Thursday, AM1334, now becomes the bill. And with that, I don't know that I can add too much more to what Senator Brashear said. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Chambers, would you like to tell the body what is contained in your