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LB 1249

redundant, but I can't pound this in any clearer. What I'm trying to do with AM2708 is trying to say existing current law is a good idea. In 1999, Senator Bruning took legislation, LB 78...I can't find it here...but he took that legislation, drove it in, and that's what created this stuff. That's what created these statutes. So it's extremely important, as far as I'm concerned, extremely important to understand why that was done, okay? And this is a little bit historical perspective--I wasn't even here, but a little bit of historical perspective. In 1991, the introduction and passage of LB 78, that's what we're talking about. It took that...excuse me, 1999. It was developed with the participation and approval of MUD. MUD liked it, or they thought...well, I don't know if they liked it, but they said, let's move forward with this. MUD was represented at every meeting where the bill was discussed. It had a voice at the table when amendments were worked out, and the bill came to the full Legislature under the representation that MUD agreed to. The bill--this was the first bill to give the PSC natural gas jurisdiction, okay? And the notion of the PSC jurisdiction over MUD was not controversial at all, not at that time. We're not even expanding it that much right here. This is very important. We're not even expanding it or changing it that much. Neither Senator Landis' underlying bill or my amendment would change it that much. So what I would say is, if we can actually, either with this amendment or without it in some other form--somebody else has a better idea, to take our existing statutes and just say, all right, MUD, you go outside of that three-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction, you have to go to the PSC right now.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FRIEND: Not afterward we don't slap their hand, but we do it before. I don't think MUD likes that idea. At least they didn't say they did. Like I said earlier, I'm not even sure Aquila did, because they have other provisions in here that are important to them, as do other investor-owned. What I would say is, finally, is that if no one is really coming out full-blown complaining and showing a whole lot of angst over that piece that I'm leaving in there, doesn't that tell us a little bit? Doesn't it tell us, hey, well, they're not too excited, but