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LB 1249

head-to-head action, and there will be an increase in rates. And I don't know how much it's going to be; I haven't seen the numbers. Senator Landis is right. But just think about it. Just step back and think about it logically. If Aquila and MUD are not fighting it out, if Kinder Morgan and whatever other gas company in rural Nebraska are not fighting it out, rates will increase. It makes sense that they would. The Chair of the committee is saying, hey look, don't do this. There's not a problem, and yet we're doing it. Logic is telling you, hey, wait, wait. It doesn't make sense. We're taking away local control, something that we have a long history of in certain instances, particularly Nebraska City. We're giving away something of value. We're saying, okay, you're free of competition. We're giving that away. We're not charging, and we're just saying, okay, that's all right. It's worth value, but you know, we don't need the revenue. Just take it. I just don't...I don't understand what we're doing here.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you through, Senator Bourne? You've heard the opening on the motion to reconsider the vote taken on AM2708. Open for discussion. There were lights on. If you wish to discuss this motion, you may. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Nebraska City gets to do what it's doing. Nebraska City, which is beyond its borders, is not regulated by the state of Nebraska, and it's not in LB 790. If it's not regulated in LB 790 and we don't extend authority to control the municipal operation in LB 1249, which we don't, they remain unregulated. That argument is false, the League is wrong, and they can't find a cite in LB 790 that says that they are regulated, because they're not, even though they're beyond their border. You know why? Because we totally exclude municipally owned operations from regulation. We totally exclude them, and this does nothing to disturb that pattern. Nebraska City--let's not mention that again. That's simply wrong. MUD cannot expand beyond the city, or cannot expand with the city. That was the claim that was made in this reconsideration motion. Wrong. MUD can go wherever MUD wants to, regardless of what we do with this bill. They set their boundaries in 14-2113, and this is the last sentence: The authority and power conferred in this