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LB 1249

the state of Nebraska. So this is the reason that whenever these types of bills come up, these ideas come up...Senator Landis is doing a great job. Senator Friend is doing a fine job. But this situation is always in the back of my mind, and I want to make sure that this doesn't happen to some other community, through neglect of investor-owned systems. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Mr. Clerk, a motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the committee amendments. (FA670, Legislative Journal page 1429.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this bill poses a challenge for me, in terms of what it is I want to do. I'm not going to argue the ins and outs of the bill, as my colleagues have been doing, because I think the sides have been fairly well established. But I notice things for procedural purposes. Now if there were 22 or 23 people in favor of an amendment that had been offered by Senator Friend, that many votes occurred on a reconsideration motion, I think if you add to 23, 33, you get more than 49 senators. That leads me to conclude that there are not going to be 33 votes here for cloture, but I could be wrong. Maybe the senators will decide that Aquila should get what Aquila wants, despite mismanagement, having to sell off utilities, diversifying into other areas trying to make money, which investors want to do. Why, if Aquila thought they could open Aquila's version of Disneyland, that's what Aquila would do. They are free to do anything they choose to try to make more money, and I know there might be some tangential restrictions on how an investor-owned utility may operate when it comes to functioning as a utility. But I'd like to ask the Chairman of the committee from which this bill emerged a question or two; namely, Senator Friend, if he's available.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Is Senator Friend on the floor? Yes, he is. He's on his way, Senator.