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LB 1249

arm, and so on, or Kinder Morgan, or several others. So I want to focus on the issue that let's try and move forward with this bill to provide some certainty out there to areas that don't have any. And that's what I'm hearing, is, without this bill we don't know whether we can pipe another town or who's going to take it over or what the jurisdiction is and so on. So I, as a rural senator, want to move this forward; give us some direction so that hopefully I can get some of my towns out there that don't have natural gas. And when you don't have natural gas, it's doggone hard to recruit a business in there that uses energy like this. As I said, the ethanol plant I worked with, I think they built a...they, they built a 14-mile pipeline to get natural gas out there because there was no natural gas in this county. There just...there was no...it was not accessible. So I want some certainty out there and some direction, and I think we're going to have to pass this bill to provide it. Because what we have now is nobody knows who's going where or who's on first or second or third or what might happen down the road. So I want, regardless, want some certainties out there. I don't see Senator Landis. I don't guess he needs the time. He's in discussion. So I would return the time, my remaining time, to the Chair. Senator Cudaback, thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. On with discussion. Senator Dwite Pedersen. Senator Dwite Pedersen, did you wish to speak?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. Again, I stand in support of LB 1249 and I'm listening. I'm listening to what's being said. Senator Bourne has said some things that I've been listening to, I'm very interested in what Senator Friend is visiting about here, but not just what they're saying. Some of my concerns of the district, my district, living mostly in the area of Aquila, I do have part of my district in MUD. I'm not anti-MUD. This whole business of competition that I've even used is really nil. I mean, it's not competition. We need not to compete. There's no...if there's ever going to be a stop to competition, I think it would be the line, by setting up...would be LB 1249. The competition is in what's carried in them lines--the gas itself and who they buy it from. They are the companies that compete.