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April 6, 2006 LB 925, 1249

SENATOR FRIEND: I take your word at that, yes.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. And so I'm struggling as to...I mean, part of me is saying just walk away, be collegial, be cordial, but part of me is saying, look, I'm not sure the votes are here for LB 1249. So maybe we should continue to talk about it and just...because we haven't had a compelling case for the need for its passage.

SENATOR FRIEND: Well, okay. Well, I'll tell you this. If LB 1249 doesn't pass, I know we've got a study coming up and I know that either myself or whoever is elected in my position or whoever is dealing with urban affairs is going to be dealing with it again, Senator Bourne. But my view is, and I'm being as honest with you as I can right now, and I've told you this twice so you know that it is, already off the record I told you, that it would be disingenuous of me because I really believed this was the answer and I worked ... I've worked a long time on this issue, not as long as Senator Landis, but I've worked a long time on this issue and I believed that... I believe and...that this is the answer. And, Senator Bourne, I'm comfortable with dealing with those entities between now and Select File, and on Select File, whatever. I work with everybody. We've seen that on LB 925. I want to do what is right via public policy, and so the answer to your question is, I want to keep an open mind, but we...but I also understand what Senator Landis is offering here and I believe it's the right thing to do. And I believe it's good for the Omaha metropolitan area, I believe in the long term it's good for municipalities, and I believe that it can be good for jurisdictional utilities.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. And, Senator Friend, the last question I'll ask you is, as Senator Landis articulated, what he and you are trying to accomplish is that you're trying to flip LB 78.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: I'm not exactly sure what that means, but I am concerned that perhaps an amendment might come on Select File