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house, don't be throwing those rocks, but...

SENATOR CUDABACK: I appreciate your comments and I know you're working hard on this. Like I say, we don't always know what the internal working order of a bill and this is complex, and I appreciate your concern and keeping in mind our local exchanges. We need to keep them. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, if you can believe, just a couple of more questions, if I may.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, that's fine. I'm not surprised.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And not exhausted yet.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Nor dismayed.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah, I wanted to follow up a little bit on Senator Tyson's comments and the provisions with respect to public power. And as I understand it, it's the intent of the committee not to authorize the public power districts to engage in this area, but, rather, simply to eliminate the language from the...from the bill that seems to prohibit them in an active way from participating, but...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It...it's an answer, but it's not the total solution.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, okay. But it's your opinion that right now they could not participate in telecommunication services?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I believe that's correct, and to the extent that I believe they are, I think they're violating the law today. I know that they probably have beliefs the other way. That's just my opinion of it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. With respect to the language on page 7, you've added the criteria as to the declaration of intent of the