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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Maurstad, I don't know whose time we're on, but...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: We're on Senator Thompson's time that she yielded to you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: (Laugh)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: We have two minutes remaining.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bromm, I've lost my train of thought here for the moment, so I guess I better pass and let it go at that for the moment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Bromm, your light is on. Would...you're the last light. Would you like to close or would you like to exercise your right to speak?

SENATOR BROMM: Well, I think I'll close, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, and I would, during my closing, I would offer Senator Beutler an opportunity, if he comes up with any other thoughts or questions, for him to comment. But let me just summarize by saying this is one step in a process that needs to occur. There is undisputed evidence that was given to this task force throughout the year and to the committee that there is a real lack of coordination of our communications equipment, and people are going to be spending money for replacement equipment or upgrading of their equipment in the very near future. If that money is spent without going through a process of coordination and leadership of the state, I'm afraid we'll be in as bad or worse shape five or ten years from now in having the state agencies being able to communicate, and the local police departments and the State Patrol and the fire and emergency services being able to communicate will be in a worse position probably than we have been and than we are now. So it is time, and it's probably a few years past time, that we did exercise some leadership and try to bring about some order to this, as some other states have. If I recall in our committee hearing, Kansas has been a little more in the forefront on this area and has brought about a communications system that serves the entire