

it. That is not good business. You make changes in response, as Senator Vard Johnson pointed out, to the changing conditions in which you have to operate, and that is where the big telecommunications industry find themselves now with what has come down from the federal level. They are having to make those changes and they are having to make them swiftly in order to stay competitive. For the people in the major metropolitan areas, such as Omaha or Lincoln, for those who do not have divided districts, rural and urban, the decision is probably easier, but for those of us who have divided districts, it is a difficult decision. We find ourselves torn between constituencies that don't fully understand the issues and the impact, and our own inadequacy of understanding the whole complex issue. In my mind this bill becomes a victim of a short legislative session. It becomes a victim of not being able to study it thoroughly and not being able to really assess the impact to both areas. Sometimes we can regulate thinking we are going to help people, such as our rural customers, when, in fact, we attempt to regulate and we harm them. So if you vote against it, I can see that that is a possibility, but if you vote for it, we have to remember we are the very first state that has gone this way. I don't know what the vote outcome will be but I know that my mind is not closed firmly in either direction, and probably understanding that doubt will reflect upon how I eventually cast my vote. A vote against it is not against the large telecommunication companies. A vote against it is not necessarily for the people. It is complex and I know each one of you will have to make up your own mind, but as I said, probably in the long run my analysis will be the fact that it is a short session and it is difficult to understand the total impact of this issue. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. We have had even division...we have not had even division, we have had pros and cons argument. Do I see five hands? I will put the question to you, shall the debate close? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 2 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries and the debate is closed. Senator Abboud.