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SENATOR COORDSEN: Yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. One other thing...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One...may I add one thing?

SENATOR RAIKES: Sure.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Is that unused monies are rolled ahead, though, in the program. That is, if there's more money estimated for one year than is used those funds are...are available for use in the following year.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay, so that...that as long as there are enough applicants then all of the funds would be used up by...so, in effect, the end of the program, as it's envisioned now, would be three years past August 2nd of...or August 1st of 2002. Is that correct?

SENATOR COORDSEN: That...that would be the school year 2004 and '05; 2002 and '03 would be the base year and then two years following that.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. All right. If...if...I would be interested in your comments, Senator Coordsen, on the effect of ending this program. Do you...there was a lot of discussion, as you mentioned, on General File and some on Select File, about the necessity of this sort of a program and...and it's...the fact that it had performed well. What's your...what's your assessment of, in effect, eliminating, cutting the program back now, and eliminating it at an earlier date than had been anticipated?

SENATOR COORDSEN: Well, my...my response to that, Senator, would be twofold. First of all, it has been a good program. It has worked and I...I think that it has provided the incentive for districts to join together in ways that they might not have done in the absence of the incentives. I think it would be a good program to continue on in the future, but looking at the uncertainties of the economy perhaps this is one of the programs