

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006 LB 1024

consideration, and the debate will begin.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Speaker Brashear. We now go to the first agenda item, General File, 2006 Speaker's major proposal. Mr. Clerk, LB 1024.

CLERK: LB 1024, Mr. President, offered by Senator Raikes. Discussed yesterday by the body. When the Legislature left the issue, Senator Cornett had pending a motion to reconsider the vote taken on AM3142 as an amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Cornett, your motion is pending.

SENATOR CUDABACK: We will all have an opportunity to speak three times with just continuation of where we left off. First light will be Senator Pahls.

SENATOR PAHLS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, my intent today is to dismiss the concept of the law of 1891, and I'm going to give you a historical time line, and hopefully we'll have time later on to to fill in, in more detail. I'm going to start in 1871. That is when the Legislature adopted an act to establish public school systems in Omaha to be supported by the property tax; 1881, the Legislature enacted legislation to create school districts in each city; in 1887, early merger of small school districts around Omaha; in 1891, that's when the Legislature enacted the one city, one school district for the metropolitan area; in 1915, South Omaha and Dundee schools merged into the Omaha Schools; in 1817 (sic) Benson and Florence Schools merged with the Omaha Schools. Now you will start seeing some changes. In 1947, LB 469, by Senator Henry Kosman of Omaha, that is when the Westside District exemption was enacted by the Legislature. In 1949, LB 1 by Senator Hoyt of McCook, Legislature enacted six classes of school districts. In 1953, the city of Omaha annexed to the 72nd Street. In 1953, LB 150, by Senator William Moulton of Omaha, that is when the Legislature enacted legislation to maintain a caucus system of electing school board members of the Westside District. In 1956, the city of Omaha annexed the majority of the Westside Omaha School...Westside District. In 1957, Ralston offers the Karen neighborhood to OPS, and OPS declines. OPS School Board members indicated the Karen tax base was too small. It is no