



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 440**

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**Chairperson:** Ron Raikes  
**Committee:** Education  
**Date of Hearing:** February 5, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 440 would repeal the provisions of the Learning Community Reorganization Act which required the division of a Class V school district which is part of a learning community (OPS). Current statute 79-4,130, requires the division of OPS into new Class V districts, each with two or three high school buildings and with contiguous boundaries by July 1, 2008.

While implementation of the division of OPS has been suspended by the courts due to concerns about its impact on racial diversity and desegregation, it is better policy for the legislature to address the issue directly as an issue of poverty.

LB 440 provides that any reorganization within a learning committee must result in a reduction in the disparities of the concentration of poverty students in the affected school districts. The learning community coordinating council and the state committee for the reorganization of school districts would be required to consider the reduction of concentration of poverty students in affected school districts in the design and approval of a reorganization plan impacting learning communities.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Don Preister**