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Senator Cudaback, followed Schellpeper, Coordsen, Schmitt, Wehrbein, Suttle, Bromm, Kristensen, and Engel.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. President, members, I won't reiterate, but so many times our constituents say, just do it, and we should do this. You know why? Because we told them we would do it. We told our school systems that they would be receiving so many dollars and they were counting on it and some of them may have perhaps even spent some of those dollars. Now we say the money's not there. So I don't see any other way but to keep our word and do what we said we would do back when we were contemplating and doing and passing 806. It was the message we sent that it would be there; the money wasn't there. They're in a predicament. We must do what we said we would do, and I don't see any other way out of this here. And I don't see it in direct conflict with the Governor's bills or this (inaudible). I think this system will work. I think that it will work in conjunction with his program, with his plan, but first things first, and this is certainly first. And so I don't see any other way but just simply to keep our word, if nothing else. And I will give the rest of my time to Senator Kristensen, if he's.... I don't see him here, so I guess I'll give it back to the Chair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. As most of the senators in here know from...of the older senators or they have been here awhile, I was not a strong supporter of LB 806, but it passed. (LB) 806, to me, is a very complicated formula, but we're stuck with it. We have to live with it. And I think it's not fair to our schools now to go back and say, oh, sorry, we're going to have a whole new formula. We need to let them know that this is the formula that we're going to live with. We're going to move forward. This is probably one of the most important bills this session for a lot of small schools. In my district, I have 14 small towns and almost every town has a small school. This is very important to those small schools. Without this, they're going to have to raise property taxes, and you know how popular that is into the rural area, in fact any place. This proposal may not be important to some of the larger