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take the hits for now and see what happens in the future. As long as we don't mess with it and give it a chance to work and stay with it, stay with it, Senator Raikes, because I know you put a couple of years on this proposal and have worked very hard on it, your staff has worked hard, and I believe that you need the support of this body to see this thing through. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, members of the body, to say that I was intrigued by Senator Raikes' proposals is a little bit short of candor. He has, with the work that he has done I think, highlighted several important issues for us to consider and an insight into the way our state aid formula works or doesn't work that we would not have otherwise had. The kinds of issues that he is pointing out, I think, are issues that we need to address. I could not support them in the fashion that I saw them in LB 715, but certainly there are ideas in there that I think can be developed and implemented within the context of the current state aid formula. Being mindful, of course, that as some people suggest, that we do need to provide for some continued stability and predictability within the formula and that we make it something that people can understand and can in their own minds rationalize and see that it produces a fair result. Some of what Senator Raikes' was suggesting, I think, would have produced a fairer result than the current state aid formula, but I'm also anxious to know, quite frankly, if there aren't perhaps some other ways that we can achieve those results. And I'm grateful that we're going to have a little bit more time to work on the issues, because I will confess that I certainly do not have the understanding of some of the issues that Senator Raikes' has pointed out that he himself has. And if I can get myself up onto a par with Senator Raikes the next time we have this discussion, I would be a lot more comfortable.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Suttle.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, Senator Raikes is maybe too smart for his own good. If...if...and I know that he will continue to work on this, but