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SENATOR RAIKES:    Yes.

SENATOR JONES:    Is there any way to change that?    So you know that some school boards out there are really conservative and they want to save, and then they get penalized.

SENATOR RAIKES:    Well, certainly I think it could be changed, Senator.    To defend the idea behind it now, state policy is that funding K-12 schools in a community are a shared responsibility between the state and that community.    So to the extent that the community itself is willing to spend their own money...

SENATOR CUDABACK:    One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES:    ...to support the school system, which they...which we at the state hope they will, then the state will share in that responsibility.    But we're reluctant to provide state funds to operate a K-12 system if there isn't a willingness at the local level to also support that system.    So that's the theme, if you will, behind the provision and you certainly may well argue that the levies ought to...or the threshold, if you will, ought to be moved up or down or changed slightly one way or the other.

SENATOR JONES:    Okay.    With the time you got left, would you explain just a little bit more on the community colleges?    I think you kind of ran out of time when you had that to start out with.    Exactly what happens there?

SENATOR RAIKES:    Okay.    Well, maybe what I can do is correct an error that Senator Kremer trapped me in.    I answered him that if student enrollment goes down the budget...

SENATOR CUDABACK:    I'm sorry but your time is up, Senator Jones.    I'm sorry, Senator Jones.    (Visitors introduced.)    On with discussion of the Education Committee amendment, AM1287, to LB 540.    Senator Bromm.

SPEAKER BROMM:    Thank you, Mr. President.    When the idea started to be floated of going to \$1.04, I think it was...initial