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do that. Could a person even increase the amount that was...goes from income tax, like LB 1059, to go back to the schools, would be a way to shift it to income? But a portion of our income tax does also go to the state, and then our state aid is from income and sales tax, a combination of that. So I guess I'm really a little fuzzy. And I like the idea, like Senator Bourne said, that you've been thinking out of the box, because if we just accept everything the way it is and we don't like it, why, then where do you go from there? But at least we can build off of what you've tried to do, but I still like what you're trying to accomplish on the...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR KREMER: ...the unfunded mandates. And I know "No Child Left Behind" in the...at the federal level is going to cost our schools more money. I know the objective is worthy, but then some of these things become a real burden for our schools. So thanks again for working on this and I guess I still don't feel very comfortable how it's...where the money is going to come from if the cost per pupil is the same as it has been in the past. So thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I, too, want to thank Senator Maxwell for thinking out of the box, of giving us another idea, but I will not be supporting the proposal. I think this is a very huge, huge issue. I feel very strongly that it needs to go through the legislative process so that we can have a hearing and people then have the opportunity and are more prepared, I believe, to discuss the bill in more detail. We've had a little bit of a discussion on what's been happening to our schools as far as consolidation. Yes, we still do have over 500 districts, but we do operate on a K through 12 system, and we have around 226 K through 12 systems. I don't know if many of you realize that not too many years ago we actually had over 7,000 districts in the state, so we have made progress. We continue to make progress. What we have done, since we've become and have had to deal with the budget shortfall, is to take away incentives to schools to sort of urge