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LB 407, 540

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Jones, followed by Senator Bromm and Stuthman.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, I do want to ask Senator Raikes a couple questions too.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you respond?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR JONES: Yesterday, in LB 407, we dealt with taking \$16 million for the next two years away from K-12 schools; \$8 million each year. And this year is supposed to raise that 1 cent in order to offset that. What if this don't happen? Does the \$16 million still...is taken away from K-12 schools?

SENATOR RAIKES: That's true that we in effect, in LB 407, reduced the appropriation, or the funding available for K-12 schools. That in effect anticipated this modification, or this amendment to LB 540. So if this amendment does not happen, then in effect we have underappropriated funds in LB 407 for TEEOSA or state aid to schools. So the sum and substance is, yes, this is necessary. It's necessary to make LB 540 consistent with the mainline budget bill, in terms of funds appropriated and funds that would be spent to support K-12 schools.

SENATOR JONES: Okay. Thank you. One other question. You're talking \$16 million for a 1 mill levy...percent mill levy increase. What does 4 do? I mean, last year's budget to education was around \$720 million. This year it's going to be \$620 million, something like that?

SENATOR RAIKES: Senator, the \$16 million is a biennial number.

SENATOR JONES: Right. (Inaudible)

SENATOR RAIKES: One penny amounts to a little over \$8 million per year. So the 4 cents is roughly in that category. Each