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have a daughter-in-law that's a teacher, and she had suggested this to me several years ago, as she teaches kindergarten, because there is such a range in kindergarten. It gets into early childhood, it gets into Head Start, all those things that make a difference in a child's life at that age. A thing I wanted to talk about a little bit was on the 16- to 18-year-olds. And we had this debate here, I'm going to guess, 15 years ago, about raising the age for high school graduation...or staying in school. At that time I opposed that, after hearing the debate, because it centered at that point on, it's difficult to keep someone that does not want to be in school, it's difficult to keep them in school, whether 16, 17, or 18. I think I'll support this. And Senator Redfield may comment on this. But I think I'll support this at this time, because we do have the alternative schools. I assume that that makes enough difference that that makes this feasible. And I would like to have her comment on that. Because keeping a 16-, 17-year-old that does not want to be in school is nigh on impossible if they're not learning anything. However, I've been convinced that in most cases the alternative schools are successful and are reaching those young people that don't want to be in school. And if that's the case, and if I'm convinced of that, I will support that part too. Senator Redfield, you can have the rest of my time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. I appreciate the time. You're exactly right. We had a nice hearing the day that we were in the committee. And if you look at the committee amendment, you will see that the bill was supported by the Nebraska Association of School Boards, by the Nebraska Council of School Administrators, the Nebraska State Education Association, as well as some other schools. And their testimony all said, we have other alternatives in place, that in fact we are a diverse educational community today, one that didn't exist 15 years ago. And they felt very comfortable that they could meet the needs of all of these students. And I would thank you for your time on that, because I wanted to bring that out. And since I have the rest of your time, I will take the opportunity to point you back to the green copy, that in fact we had started