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that's what's happening in the schools,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and I'm not going to let a bill like this go that will make it worse. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Redfield, on the Stuhr amendment to the committee amendment.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I want to thank you for your patience while we are drafting the amendment. Senator Raikes has worked very hard. I was looking at the language to see if it was divisible, but we wanted to make sure we left all of our operating language in the bill. So they are drafting and we're waiting for it to come down. So I will ask you to bear with us as we talk about the bill a little bit longer. We are going to leave in the bill the committee amendment. As it comes down it will still have the high school age. What it will drop is the starting date for five-year-olds, that they would have to be five by September 1 under Senator Stuhr's amendment, and the new amendment would return it to the current language, which is October 15. I believe that the goal of everyone here on the floor is to do what's best for the children in the state of Nebraska. I don't believe anyone here has an evil intent to eliminate children from an educational opportunity. I think our goal is to make sure that children are not having to compete unfairly with those who, by virtue of years, have an advantage. And certainly that would be the goal, I believe, of all of us here. So as we're drafting that amendment, I hope that you bear that in mind that right now the reason the bill was brought to us or brought to Senator Stuhr was because, in fact, the kindergarten teachers have said I have a spread between four-year-olds and seven-year-olds starting kindergarten, and that's it very, very difficult for those four-year-olds to actually keep up with a seven-year-old. It has nothing to do with how bright they are. In fact, they might be far brighter but that sometimes, just because of fine motor development and other factors, they might find it difficult to keep up. Maybe it's just that the length of time, especially with all-day kindergarten that is occurring