

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 10, 2005 LB 126

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Raikes would move to amend the bill with AM0354. (Legislative Journal page 482.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, to open on AM0354 to LB 126.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members. The amendment that's before us at the moment is a technical amendment. I will explain that, but I would like to finish with the...with some more information here, because I think it's essential to the...to your understanding of the bill. If I can continue, please turn to page 6 on that handout, which is the first page of a table providing information about 109 Class I school districts that are at least in part associated with a Class VI high school. Here again, there are a hodgepodge of affiliations. Some are affiliated with more than one Class VI high school, and some are affiliated with a single Class VI high school but as many as four other Class III districts. Summary information is on page 9. Please turn there. A total of 5,200 students are served. Average option enrollment is 15 percent, and 75 percent of resident students are served, higher than for the affiliated group but less than a ringing endorsement. The budget per student is a more modest \$9,173. The bottom line shows what happens to the summary information if you take out Schuyler Grade School, which is by far the largest Class I, accounting for 16 percent of all the students in this table and more than 10 percent of all students in all Class I's in the state. The budgeted amount per student goes up by more than \$540, nearly as high as for the other group of Class I's. Again, the lower funding for this one school is enough to pull down the average funding for all of the 109 districts by more than \$500 per student. The final page on the handout, page 10, provides more information about the Schuyler Class I-Class VI system. There are seven Class I's. Four are completely affiliated, two are mostly affiliated, and one is partly affiliated. You see the breakdown of enrollment. You also see that all the ELL students and 94 percent of the poverty students attend Schuyler Grade School. Next, you see the actual amount spent per student for the respective elementary districts. Even though the Schuyler Grade School has nearly all the neediest