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the schools in Senator Raikes' district, or at least some overlapping of school districts. It was hearsay, so I looked for the numbers. I asked for the numbers and I got the numbers and (laugh) they were even stronger evidence for inefficiency in Lincoln Public Schools than I was anticipating. My hat is off to Papillion-LaVista Schools, who built their new high school for \$82 a square foot. Lincoln Public Schools spent \$127 per square foot because they could. If we want to look for efficiencies across Nebraska, there's plenty of room in urban Nebraska. I see the Class I schools as some of the most efficiently run political subdivisions in our state. They gave up their budget authority several years ago. They didn't like that. That was basically a compromise in here. They gave that up. But I said I wouldn't yell. We have an issue before us...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...that we're going to spend a lot of time on this session, and gain what? Nothing. We're going to take away the livelihoods of many folks. Will the world come to an end? No. Will we force students to go to a school that they would choose not to go to? Yes. Nineteen eighty-nine, we brought option enrollment to Nebraska. Let's get rid of it this year, either directly or indirectly I guess. Why take those options away? They're very efficiently positioned. And when you see the trend in Nebraska that the fewer districts we have...we are closing school districts, basically, already by attrition, by local option already, without the state mandating it, one every two weeks on the average. I guess that's not good enough. But if we can make all districts look the same, pay everyone the same, make sure they have the same number of too many administrators, then we're all better off. I question that fact of whether we're all better off if everyone looks the same.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Price, followed by Senator Hudkins and others.