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FLOOR DEBATE

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you're in the 4th grade and you're having a little trouble with your reading, you're going to be listening to the 3rd grade or maybe even reading with them, so you have a built-in remedial program.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR HUDKINS: The involvement of the parents is what is so important. I would wonder what the percentage of parents in a K-12 setting that actually go to their parent-teacher conferences. I would bet you a cookie or two that at a Class I parent-teacher conference all of the parents are there, not just one but both of them. We are going to be talking about this for a while. Yes, it's probably an emotional issue, but we are not going to show our emotions on the floor. We're going to be dealing with the facts. We're going to tell you about the graduation rates. We're going to tell you about the parental involvement. We're going to tell you about the curriculum offerings. We're going to tell you about the money. So there are...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. The issue before the body is AM0354, offered by Senator Raikes to LB 126. Further discussion, Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. First of all, I do want to thank Senator Raikes for his work that he has put in. And also, I wanted to share with you, in the year 2000 alone, this is some of the materials that we worked on. So this is not an issue that we are just flippantly, as a member of the Education Committee, doing. It is something that we have spent a great deal of time, effort. We've taken hearings across the state so that we could have input from all areas to consider what is before us. It is an emotional issue, as we have said before, and serving on the Education Committee, any time we talk about schools and we talk about children, it is an emotional issue because we all want to do what is right. As