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district. Now, that's come with a pretty hefty price tag. But LB 126 doesn't address that; it addresses the smaller ones that are happy doing what they're doing. They have reluctantly lived under the restrictions that the state has placed in the past as a part of a compromise around our education policy. But the Class I schools that have been allowed to exist, they're doing a good job. I asked Senator Raikes...and I hope that he can bring this into it, because he touched on it. He said there's some evidence--and I would argue that it's probably anecdotal--that Class I schools are poor quality and there are not enough opportunities...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. (Visitors introduced.) Senators are wishing to know where they stand in the line to speak, and I will read those now. Senators Johnson, Fischer, Hudkins, Baker, Erdman, Langemeier, Heidemann, Beutler, Schrock, McDonald, Raikes, Kruse, Byars, and Smith. Senator Johnson, you're recognized. Senator Johnson, you're recognized. Sorry about that, Senator Johnson. We didn't mean to shut you off.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I, like many other members this morning, am a product of Class I schools--District 56 for about five years. And as I was sitting here thinking, actually was in on a rather milestone, in that, came here with the Axtell High School class in 1953, to the Supreme Court decision which allowed consolidation of schools. That's now more than 50 years ago. But what we want to talk about this morning is where we've moved to with the Class I schools. I don't think that any of us here want students that are now going 20 miles in the Sandhills to a school to go 40 years (sic). That's not what the discussion is about. What the discussion is about is schools like Senator Schrock courageously addressed, that almost touch the edge of Holdrege, Nebraska, one of the finest school systems in this state. And yet, we don't have the cooperation of these adjacent schools. I think the time has come to help them in their decision. When I first came