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February 11, 2005 LB 126

SENATOR McDONALD: I know. Are we...

SENATOR RAIKES: And there, in turn, is information they collected from budget documents for individual school districts.

SENATOR McDONALD: But there are...

SENATOR RAIKES: In other words, the school districts provided them the information. They've compiled it and provided...I know I've gotten some from them. And you're on the Education Committee. You're well aware of what we've done on LB 126. You know that we have gotten information from the department.

SENATOR McDONALD: Would you agree that when a Class I school closes that we won't save money in all cases?

SENATOR RAIKES: Save money in all cases? You'll have to elaborate just a Little bit, Senator. I'm not quite...

SENATOR McDONALD: In every Class I that closes, is sometimes the cost going to be greater than the savings, in some cases?

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, if what you're referring to, Senator, is if an action like LB 126 does not happen, you allow school districts to continue long beyond the time they have any students, then I would agree with you. Yes, I would think that in that particular case, there's no students out there but we're still budgeting money to that school, which is happening, as you know, in 11 Class I school districts now as we speak.

SENATOR McDONALD: If a Class I school closes, what do...are they accountable for any expenses?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: I think every Class I district, the way the statute is right now, is required to file a budget document each year. I don't think, and I don't know, I don't think they're required to be audited every year, but I'll have to check on that to be sure.