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or thereabouts.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Fischer, there's about 1, 11 total.

SENATOR FISCHER: Okay, thank you, Senator Baker. Mr. President and members of the body, in regards to what Senator Raikes just brought up on these handouts he gave us, he talks about the assessed valuation and then the valuation per member. Again, this is my argument on why we aren't talking about state aid. That's the important issue that this body should be addressing. As long as state aid to schools is based on property, then we're going to see these kind of figures. Another point: Senator Raikes implied that these poverty students that some of these districts have are because of option. Senator Raikes said the Class I system allows this to happen; it must stop, it must stop now. If that is truly what he feels, perhaps we should not be addressing Class I's.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR FISCHER: Omaha Westside exists in this state by action of this Legislature. If we're going to talk about option students, and if we're going to take this broad-brush approach against Class I's because we seem to be the weaker of the people in this Chamber, and Omaha Westside...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR FISCHER: ...seems to have votes and business behind them, we need to rethink it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker and Senator Fischer. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Erdman, Beutler, Loudon, Janssen and five others.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I was, in the interest of Senator Raikes' own heart health, I don't want to get him worked up too much, and so I was going to ask questions of the Vice Chair, but I don't see Senator Byars on the floor either. But let me chat a little bit about some issues that concern me. And I believe that this issue of