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education is a public good. Everybody benefits for it...from it, and everybody should help support it. That has been our policy and absolutely needs to be our policy. Senator McDonald talked about difficulties associated with closing schools and the expense of parents and families moving to the more central elementary site. Well, I would tell you our statute now requires transportation reimbursement for any student that is further than four miles away from an elementary attendance center. That's K through 8. So certainly, and again, she mentioned in her comments, as though we have some either band of idiots or outsiders that's serving as the school board and they're going to completely ignore all they know about...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...the local community that they're serving, all that's said to them by parents and students and taxpayers in that district, which I simply don't understand. Many of you in here have served on K-12 boards. You know different. You know that that simply isn't the way that that works. But at any rate, before deciding to close a building, if that is the decision by a K-12 board, they certainly will take into consideration transportation expense. And if you have transportation reimbursement, that is that would be required, so that if you have a situation where a K-12 board is looking at, let's say, an efficiently operated or low cost per student operated school district that is far enough away from the K-12 elementary that there would be considerable transportation expense, transportation reimbursement, what makes you think they wouldn't take that into consideration? I don't think there's any reason to believe they wouldn't take that into consideration.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler and Senator Raikes. On with discussion of the McDonald amendment, AM0086, to LB 126, Senator Chambers.