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FLOOR DEBATE

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all the safeguards built into this, and if you're a big enough Class I attendance center or far enough away, we're not talking about closing you anyway, which is the situation there, I think, with her school. Fiscal conservative--yes, that describes me; follow the will of my constituents. I've been approached by the Class I patrons and some of them are not residents of the Class I districts I have there in the McCook area, in Red Willow County. Overwhelmingly, the constituents in my legislative district saying we need to pass LB 126. I went home over the weekend, kind of refreshed my memory on what we'd done in some of the local areas there, and basically we just merged Class I districts in the sixties, for the most part, and nobody is even contending that we ought to go back where we were. We did it, and gone down the road, and it's fine. Now we're contending to merge high school districts, closing high schools, grade schools and so on. So I consider us a pretty good leader out there in that area, and we can show that it does work and we've not had too many problems with it. I do want to bring out an interesting point in the discussion. The one Class I I have in Red Willow County, District 41, it's no secret there are two large dairies out in that immediate vicinity. It's about, I don't know, five or six miles north of McCook, the schoolhouse itself. I have the opposite of what Senator Raikes has been talking to...about, but it concerns me. I have opting out of that District 41 are 14 students, opting in were 3. But the students that are left out there, and I'm sure that they're getting a reasonably good education, but they're basically the Hispanic children from the employees at the dairy. It concerns me. They...and Senator Aguilar brought this up. They should be assimilated into society, both by the students, the resident students, in that rural district. And in all cases...in most cases I think the Hispanic students that are going...now attending District 41 should be assimilated into a larger system. And I have to defend the education they're getting out there because I think the board that administers that district out there is concerned about those Hispanic students, but the figures are telling. Fourteen of the resident students opted out, meaning they went to McCook. I believe most of them would have gone to McCook High School or some...or McCook school system. Some, one or two, may have gone to Maywood. I don't know about that. But we only have ten resident students left