litter box, and the cat's owner says, absolutely do not think outside that box. I think we get captivated with that theory here in the Legislature, because we have a mind-set of, everything must be done the same way. And it's...I think it's an honorable attempt at fairness. But I think oftentimes we need to step back, allow a small district school board to make some decisions that they feel is best for the community. And I would much rather a battle be fought at the local level relating to local issues, than a battle be fought here in the Legislature. And I know that Senator Stuhr, when she stood up and said, we need to do LB 126 because her districts did it a long time ago, they did that voluntarily. I think she even said that her opinion on this issue has changed somewhat over the last ten years.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: And I'm not sure exactly why. But there is the issue of voluntary decisions at the local level, because those are the decisions that I think fit best for those who have the concerns, who have the needs, who have the desires to do the right thing. We have a lot of issues facing us this session, as it relates to budget. And when I see the fiscal note to LB 126 change rather dramatically...and perhaps there is some basis in fact for that, but I'm not convinced, I'm far from convinced that this will automatically save taxpayer dollars, because it's speculated as to how many districts will actually engage the closure of a building, and that's the only way the money can be saved in government these days, is if you close facilities and lay off staff.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. The first five speakers are Senators Langemeier, Louden, Kruse, Raikes, Erdman, and eight others. Senator Langemeier, you're recognized.

SENATOR LANGEMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd yield my time to Senator Smith.