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SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and Senator Erdman. This has been a process that is necessary and we have come to the point now where it's my understanding...and although I would say, without being too cliché, that the devil is in the details...that those of us who are opposed to LB 126 still have some grave concerns. And if we can work out the details, I hate to call it a lose-lose situation when Senator Raikes doesn't get what he wants and have to say we're not getting entirely what we want, but the negotiation proceeds from here. And I just want it...I want the record to reflect that those of us who have concerns about LB 126 still have concerns, regardless of what color the light is or not voting, whatever the case may be on the coming vote, but we are giving up some in the interest of good faith negotiation, and that is my desire, is to move forward in good faith negotiation. I have to say, from the onset of this generation of Class I mandatory consolidation arguments, from the beginning the constituents of mine at home have been willing to compromise. They've come up with ideas, ideas to think outside the box, if you will, and that's what I'm wanting to do and that's what I think we can do. And I appreciate the fact that Senator Raikes is wanting to move forward with those, that it's not his way or the highway, and I appreciate that immensely. This issue is difficult, given the fact there are so many reasons that Class I's exist, but it is my desire to move forward in good faith negotiation, and I thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith and Senator Erdman. Senator Hudkins. This will be your third time, Senator.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I have mixed emotions about this, LB 126. Obviously, you know I don't like it, but we are willing to enter good faith negotiations with Senator Raikes. We have a lot of schools in the state, yes, some of them probably should close, but our opposition to LB 126 is that under the present bill they all close. So if we all can work together between now and the next time that we see this bill on the floor, hopefully some of these more sticking issues will have been resolved. This is all done for the