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SENATOR RAIKES: Okay, and I'll try to respond, Senator. First off, in terms of the late warning, if you will, I empathize with your comment entirely. We have, I think, a considerable infrastructure in the state that is concerned with technological connections and so on. We literally did not really hear about this emerging need until the interim right before this session. So we're arriving on the scene late, as you suggest. I still think it's important enough that, even though we are notified late, we do in fact need to respond. The response of, okay, we heard about it late, let's just extend the contracts another year or maybe more as need be. A couple of points about that. One is the outdated technology, and apparently, and I don't...I can't act as an expert at all on this. Apparently it is the case that extending a contract with that outdated technology is expensive. And it would be expensive not only in terms of the outlay, but expensive in the fact that once you did the update, it would really be usable only for a very short period of time. So it makes apparently not good sense to do that sort of an extension of the contract.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: The second thing I would point out is that it's important to have connection between the school systems in the state; thereby, it's important that what one school does or is what...is done to provide service to one school is compatible with that that is done for other schools and is done for the ESU. So there's a need for a coordination of the technological effort. If you allow the contracts to expire and allow individual school systems to make do with what they can over a certain period of time, there is fear that what you may end up with is money that is not well spent in terms of coordination among school systems.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you through, Senator.

SENATOR RAIKES: I am. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yeah. Your time is up right now anyhow. Senator Don Pederson, followed by Senator Jensen and others.