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those operations. If they cannot operate on a reasonable cost and providing quality education, I'm not defending those. But so far I have not been presented with any convincing information that that's prevalent out there. Quite frankly, it isn't out there, from what I've seen. If we want to talk about efficiency and effectiveness, let's talk about it all across the state.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Stuhr, followed by Senator Louden.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. This has been a very difficult issue for many people. And as I stated when we discussed it on General File, that probably ten years ago I would have been on the opposite side of the issue, but time does have a matter of changing things. And I realize that change is very difficult. But I think this is one of the issues that we all have to look at and, again, look at the quality of education that we are going to be providing our children of the state because that is of utmost importance and the highest priority, I believe, for all of us. I will not be able to support Senator Louden's amendment. I believe that all those provisions in that amendment really say, let's just keep things as they are. Let's look at that: four miles from another school. I believe in the negotiations that we talked about the distance of ten miles, which seems very reasonable today. Years ago, as I stated, we had Class I's because of certain reasons. We had many, many students living in those rural areas. And if I ask everyone in this body to raise their hand who attended a Class I, I would say probably three...no, I'm not asking. (Laugh) I'm just saying I bet you three-fourths of the body would probably say they did attend a Class I. So we all know and we think back on those memories that we had at a Class I. But let me tell you that times have changed. We no longer walk to school. We no longer ride horses to school. We all have means of transportation that we can easily transport students ten miles from another school. I believe the negotiations have provided for some of these