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LB 126

requirements to help students get past these problems and challenges that they face, that money that they receive from the state of Nebraska and from the taxpayers of Nebraska needs to go to those students. It's not just thrown into the General Fund. It has to be accounted for.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FISCHER: Districts already do that when they receive federal funds, with your Title I money. Districts have to account for where that money is going, and they have to show and prove that it is reaching the students that that money has been designated for. I feel this is a very important point in this amendment. As I said yesterday, this was our first proposal back to the supporters of LB 126. We had negotiations since then. But we're discussing this amendment here and now, and I support this amendment, and I would urge your support of it also. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Fischer. On with discussion of AM1217. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I want to agree with some of the things that Senator Louden and Smith and Fischer have said. We've worked very hard on LB 126. There are some passionate views and beliefs about this issue. And I will tell you that I believe we have reached an accommodation that is not going to satisfy everyone. I think that simply was not possible. But I believe it is a good proposal. I know it's not everything that I wanted. But yet, it's something I can live with, and it's something I believe...I believe the people on the other side of this issue could say roughly the same thing. That amendment will be coming down the line shortly, and I'll go through that at the time. For the moment, I did want to comment why I cannot support this amendment. First off, it leaves Class I districts as independent. It...we do not achieve the primary goal I've had all along of a K-12 organization in the state. You've heard reasons from folks why they don't feel that's necessary. But nonetheless, that is a key bottom line for me. So I cannot support that. I will tell you that some of the items in here