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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 126

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Redfield, followed by Senator Mines.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise only to say that throughout Nebraska we have good schools. We have good teachers, we have good parents, we have good kids. We have quality education in lots of our schools. And I find it somewhat disconcerting when, during the debate, I've heard repeatedly that parents won't be involved. We have parents that are involved in all of our schools. We have teachers that will go the extra mile in all of our schools. And I'm truly grieved when I've received letters from some of the children in the Class I schools, and I see fear. They say, please don't make me go to the town school. And they quote things like the Columbine massacre. Why are we making our children afraid of change? There's a big world out there, and we're going to have to face it. And I'm not saying that we shouldn't protect our children and care about our children. But certainly, they go to town, that town of 800 or 1,200, and they go there for church, and they go there to shop, and they look forward to going to town. Why would it be different to going to school in town? There's nothing in the bill that says every Class I school is going to close. It's just about governance. I hope that we can help our children learn not to be fearful people, but people who are bold and brave and willing to go out and face the world. Because it will come sooner or later. Nebraska is not a fearful place. Nebraska is a great place. We call it the good life, and we call it the good life from the Missouri River to the western border. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Mines. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on AM1217? All in favor vote aye; opposed vote nay. We're voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted on the question who care to? We're voting on ceasing debate. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Loudon, you're