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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 126

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment, Senator Raikes, AM0363. Senator, I have a note that you'd like to substitute AM1672. (Legislative Journal page 1679.)

SENATOR RAIKES: Please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Any objection? So ordered.

CLERK: Senator, AM1672 is pending.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, to open.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This is the amendment that I referred to earlier in the comments. I'm going to run through this quickly. I hope you have before you now a bullet sheet on that amendment. I apologize for our lack of precision. It indicates the fluidity. I think it says, 5-19-2005, 6:25 p.m. It was actually 6:25 and 53 seconds, but we'll let that one go. There are three or four important distinctions, or important components of this that I want to alert you to. I've already mentioned that the first priority, as far as I have been concerned for some time, is K-12 organization. This amendment protects, or brings us to, I should say, K-12 organization. It does provide accommodation...and I might just mention in that connection, I think one of the major concerns of those who were on the other side of LB 126 was the protection of attendance centers, the protection of opportunities for kids to continue to attend the school buildings that are now Class I's. I'll go through the sections. First, operating councils are formed. These are...the characteristics of them are listed out. I won't go through them in great detail. They provide a local group that is advisory to the K-12 board on matters pertaining to the local building, which is called a community school building. They involve an opportunity for that advisory board to submit a budget, and again, on an advisory basis. They have an opportunity to interview and recommend staff for the community school. They would be included in the administration of the district by receiving copies of materials provided to the K-12 board that affect that particular school's operation. And they