

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 20, 2005

LB 126

faith as we work together to serve this population of students that are going to be in transition. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. (Visitors introduced.) Back to discussion of AM1672. Senator McDonald.

SENATOR McDONALD: Mr. President and members of the body, well, here we are. We're ready to...we came to a compromise. We did what we thought we needed to do, and that is compromise. And since I've been a senator, I've realized that no one gets exactly what they want. And the best thing to come together is a compromise, and that's where we're at. Some people are not happy with the compromise. But because it is a compromise, not everybody gets everything they want. And if everybody got everything they want, it wouldn't be a compromise. We have worked very, very hard since we moved LB 126 from General to Select. Those that opposed LB 126 met almost weekly to come together. And let me tell you, that's a difficult thing, for those that opposed LB 126 to come together. It wasn't easy. I say it's kind of like herding cats. Because once you get everybody together, one strays away and another one runs after it. And then here we are, trying to come back together. The issue is, Class I schools mean different things to different senators. They mean different things to Senator Flood, Senator Fischer, Senator Heidemann, Senator Hudkins, Senator Smith, Flood, Langemeier, myself. They mean different things. And so to solve a problem for one sometimes creates a problem for the other. So that's why it's very, very difficult for us to come together. And I commend and thank Senator Brashear, Speaker Brashear, for trying to bring us together. And without his help, I don't know that we'd be where we are today. So I commend him and thank him for that. And most of all, I commend and thank Senator Raikes for the meetings that we had with him. We would come together, tell him our concerns, and he would take that information, have to decipher it, study it, and then come back to say whether he could or could not accept it. So it was the last day and the last hour that we needed to come together, and we did. And I feel that this amendment is the best amendment that we could have come to an agreement. Like I said, not everybody likes it. But it's a good amendment. It's better than the green copy. And those that supported LB 126 possibly