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LB 126

wasn't doing well educationally in other schools, or they wasn't doing good socially in other schools. And these Class I's were a haven to help these kids survive. And I really believe that. I signed on for the kids. It's the kids. What's this all about? I believe LB 126 is all about more money for the larger K-12 districts, and I really believe that. Will these schools have to close? No, they won't, as long as they have five resident students for a certain amount of years. And after that is over, will these schools have to close? Some of them, still not. But when these K-12 districts come upon tough economic times, instead of cutting football, basketball, or wrestling, trust me, these schools will be shut. And who suffers? It's the kids. It's the kids. I wanted to make one comment about the whole process of LB 126. There were some things that happened in the last couple of days that...it really disappointed me. There were some things that happened yesterday that I never wanted to see in this body. But it happened. I guess I have to deal with it, but I'm not happy about it. Yesterday we was talking about, both sides will not be happy. We understand that the other side--and I call the other side the ones that want to see LB 126 pass--are not happy because they compromised too much. Our side is not happy because we're losing too much. Senator Flood, the lawyer in our group, says it sounds like a divorce case, when both the wife and the husband walk away and they're both mad. Well, just like a divorce case, and the closing of these Class I schools, you know what happens? Who suffers? It's the kids. It's the kids.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you finished, Senator Heidemann?

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I rise in opposition to LB 126. Class I districts are needed, and I believe they are especially needed in more sparsely populated areas of the state, which includes all of my district, District 43. I don't believe that you can have a broad-brush approach to a perceived problem. It seems that the body will be saying, yes, we need to have a broad-brush approach to a