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SENATOR HUDKINS: All right. So let's take, for example, LB 126. If a smaller school is merged involuntarily, does the larger school still get the money?

SENATOR RAIKES: No, this doesn't apply...this applies only to K-12 mergers.

SENATOR HUDKINS: So two K-12s have to go together in order to receive the money?

SENATOR RAIKES: Right. Right.

SENATOR HUDKINS: All right. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Hudkins, your light is next. Did you wish to utilize that? Thank you. Senator Stuhr, on the Smith amendment.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I am having a little difficulty, serving on the distance education task force, with...now, with this amendment coming in and diluting some of the money that was originally planned to go to the distance education programs that have been offered under this bill. I hear conflicting remarks about, well, it's not really going to make a difference, and yet, in 2007-2008, it is my understanding that there will be \$500,000 less going into the equipment and incentive fund for the distance education program. And that will continue to '08-09...well, it will be \$750,000 less, and by '09 and '10, it will be \$1 million less. So I do see an impact on the program. I...as I said, I was a member of the task force, and we worked diligently these many months. I understand the concern that Senator Thompson is bringing in regards to the teacher incentive program, but I do think that might be something that we deal with at another time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. First of all, I think everybody in this body knows that I support and