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LB 1024

attracting, through quality education programs, attracting kids to the eastern part of the city. Nowhere in this amendment does it say that busing is going to happen, that there's anything going to be forced upon anybody else. It simply says that in response to a court-ordered situation, the learning community would have the authority to do it, and if you just think about it logically, it makes sense. How can one district--and this could happen to any district within the learning community--how can one district respond on its own? They can't. We are one community, whether or not you want to agree with that or not, and you know, I'm not advocating that...I support the bill, LB 1024. It makes sense to have the boundaries as they are, I suppose. But we are one community. When you drive through Omaha, you can't tell if you entered Millard or some other community, or Westside. We are one community. We have to do what's right for our kids, all of them, whether on the west side of the city or the east or the north, the south. It doesn't matter. We have to do what's right, and if you think about it, any school district within that learning community would have difficulties adopting an integration plan by themselves. All I'm saying is we're creating this superboard, we're giving them duties, we're giving them obligations. Let them help a particular school district that needs the help, as it relates to integration. That's all this amendment does.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, the other thing that this amendment does is that it presumes litigation. I never said that it was an incentive to litigation, that it caused litigation, that litigation would be more likely under this. It presumes that litigation will happen. And Senator Connealy asked why he should be concerned about this. Well, he should be concerned, as Senator Stuhr said, because of the number of our young citizens that are served in the metropolitan area, but it's also because of what we have done over the past 20 years to address some of these issues. What Ben Gray talked about was not just about race; he also talked about white suburban districts having more resources. Well, over the past 20--some years, we as a Legislature have done a great deal to address that, and LB 1024 does a great deal more. We have substantially