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concerns is the Hispanic district and the disproportionate number that would be within that district for ESL, English as a second language, students. And correct me if I'm wrong in this assumption, but currently, because OPS' boundaries extend beyond South High in the south area, they have access to a bit more affluent or higher-valued property tax assessments than what is in the southeast area of the city of Omaha, which I think you would agree that...

SENATOR RAIKES: Right.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: ...the affluency and the value of the property tax base is not as high in that area. So could you help me understand, given the ESL segment of this and the low property tax values to begin with, what would be the...do you know, or what would be...what do you think the potential implications are on that state aid formula for the Hispanic district?

SENATOR RAIKES: Senator, let me address it this way. The funding for English as a second language students is a part of operating costs and in our needs calculation in the state aid formula there's additional weighting provided for that. All of the...well, Omaha Public Schools is an equalized school system, so when you calculate needs, you match it against the resources, there's state aid required to make up the difference. That would be the case with each, if there were three school districts that are within what is currently OPS. In the event that you had one of those that was particularly lower in valuation or property wealth than the others, there would be...the needs would be met regardless. It would simply take more state aid for that district than one that had higher property values.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: So the net outcome in your estimation would be more state aid to the Omaha area. You know, like right now, to help fortify and to help assess the needs, with the current geographical configuration of OPS, they have access to a bit more property wealth, but that will be discontinued. So do you have any estimation on what that increased state aid might cost the state? Is there any assessment being done relative to that?