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SENATOR CUDABACK: I do raise the call. Senator Raikes, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This amendment deals with the integration plan that Senator Bourne has been actively involved with throughout the discussion. I have tried to, in this amendment, to address his concerns about putting teeth, for lack of a better phrase, into that and requiring that school districts within the learning community participate in good faith in an effort. I want you to look at the amendment. As I do that, I will ask that it be withdrawn at this point and refiled on Select File. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: So ordered, Senator Raikes.

CLERK: I have nothing further to the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Back to discussion of committee amendments themselves. There are a number of lights on. If you don't wish to speak, it's your choice. Senator Howard.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. If I may ask Senator Raikes a few questions?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you yield?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you. As you know, you and I worked closely on the issue of the common levy and I'm very supportive of that. I think that's a way to address the needs of all children equally. But my question is the common levy, and I know that you understand this and really can help me better understand it, the common levy is used to equalize the resources among districts. Am I correct in that?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR HOWARD: My second part of this question then, would you