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SENATOR SMITH: No. And so would it be fair to say that we're basically instructing the learning community to form an advisory board that would carry out the objectives of educating their community?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. And the ones that will be directly involved in a plan for the reorganization is called a community coordinating council. Then there is a state committee which takes over from there. But the Legislature does not set the boundaries.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Chambers. I appreciate the clarification there, and I would yield my time to Senator Raikes, should he choose to use it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Senator Smith, members of the Legislature. I will offer some perspective on why I supported this amendment, or the Chambers amendment, and continue to do. As he pointed out, we now have segregated schools in OPS. simply recognizes that we have those ... we have that situation . and offers an opportunity that we begin to deal with it. We no hide behind the fact that we can put all these communities together in one big district and, the average, hide the fact that we've got very high concentrations of racial groups separated in the districts. We know exactly where those groups are and we can begin to deal with it. Now, Senator Chambers is maybe less optimistic than I am about achieving integration, but I am optimistic about that, and I think this arrangement actually makes it more likely that we'll get something done, for a couple reasons. One of them is that we put the community, the local community, in control of their public schools. We do that all over the state without concern. Are we somehow saying that if you put a community that is composed primarily of minority citizens in charge of their public schools that somehow they're not going to do a good job? I don't know why we would conclude that. Do we somehow say that if a minority community is in charge of their public schools that they're all of a sudden going to become inappropriately