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FLOOR DEBATE

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everybody is going through here. And if you don't settle it, you know it will go to court and that is, to me, is devastating. Because across the country where it has gone to court, it has been devastating to the districts and to the students and to everybody concerned. So with that, I do believe that there should be more negotiations. There should be people willing to sit down and compromise. In this Legislature the last 12 years, I found that's what works down here. You don't always get your way. You have to go...you have to compromise for the good of the order, for the good of the people of the state of Nebraska. And I think that's what they should be doing over there, is compromising for the good of the students and the children in those districts. With that, I turn the rest of my time over to Senator Raikes, if he'd like to have it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Senator Engel. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there's been a number of comments about, as Senator Flood mentioned, we want you to find a solution. Senator Friend mentioned the point, gosh, this is huge, complicated; we can't get this done this year. Let me tell you that if we pass LB 1024, if we would enact it this year, there are only four things that would happen before the Legislature convenes again next January. Number one, the school district boundaries would not move. They'd stay right where they are now, and that would include the OPS boundaries, the district that we're talking about in this amendment. Those boundaries would not move. The second thing that would happen is that the learning community coordinating council, the superintendent group, the representative group for all the districts, would begin to meet. They would begin to hold meetings. The third thing, the task force that is charged with coming up with a proposal to address integration issues within the learning community would begin to meet. And, finally, there would be a...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...coordinator put in position in the Department of Education to begin investigating the issue of what