TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 10, 2006 LB 1024

be better education. Every single one of them said it would be Every single one of them gave reasons why poorer education. that would be different. Let me take an illustration. this is hard to figure out. I was a little surprised about it. But let me take an illustration of a particular teacher who, bright-eyed and wistful, said, I love what I do; I love what I And all these people I'm talking about are within the proposed black district and most of them are African-American. This one was. I love what I do. It's...I've got a class. wish there was a better mix in it, but we have a good time. We do a good education. But if you take me and this same class and put us behind the fence, it will be a different world. guarantee you, the education will suffer. It will be a poorer product. And we will get a slow deterioration of the quality in our classroom. It just will go downhill because we're labelled a black district. Now again, this is in contrast...let it be a smaller district? Fine. Put a cap on 25,000 which brings about the same thing? That's a different thing than being Fine. labelled a black district. Somebody else said we...(laugh) this is not a black school; this is an interracial school and it is extremely offensive for you to start labelling us and put us behind fences where we can't get out, where we can't deal. I've been a teacher of this district...and none of these persons were defending OPS. I've been a teacher in this district. I have a world out there that I can relate to and you're going to tie me up so that I can't relate to that world. multiracial neighborhood. It's a wonderful neighborhood. have all kinds of folks there, including Asians and people from the Mideast and India and the Omaha Nation and there's even a Swede in there someplace, that's a foreign country. When I step across the street to my little park with a kite in each hand, kids surround me in a wonderful way. Ruth and I chose this place because it is a wonderful place. I am surrounded by wiggling ...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR KRUSE: ...exciting bodies who want to do some...this is the real world. It is, you know, I have very few white neighbors. It is not a black neighborhood. It's the real world. And this amendment, not the rest of it, not shortening