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FLOOR DEBATE

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wasn't a little broader base of support? And in your opening you mentioned that you had talked to Lincoln and Omaha schools, and you didn't mention any other schools. I'm curious as to why there isn't a broader base of support, especially at the committee hearing.

SENATOR HOWARD: Actually, at the time that we were addressing this bill and we passed it out of committee--and you may notice we passed this out with 100 percent of vote yes, and Senator McDonald did not vote, because her district was in the process of voting that very day on whether to pass a bond amendment. So there are other districts that have passed bond amendments to enable them to move to all-day kindergarten.

SENATOR SMITH: Now when you mean a bond amendment, what are you saying?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR HOWARD: To...the bond amendment is to offer the...to provide the space that's needed for the program.

SENATOR SMITH: So there's additional space required, in terms of a physical plant within a school district, to offer all-day kindergarten?

SENATOR HOWARD: There could be.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, so do you have any statistics in terms of how many of those are passing?

SENATOR HOWARD: Are passing what?

SENATOR SMITH: I assume they're going to the voters asking for more square footage at the schools? Do you have any data on...

SENATOR HOWARD: Oh, whether the bonds themselves have passed. Yes, yes, we do. The bonds that were pending have all passed.

SENATOR SMITH: Have all passed?