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FLOOR DEBATE

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serve a particular group of students, that that school district is thereby obligated to show that that funding, in fact, went to serve that function, again, I don't see the flaw in that. I think that is a significant improvement, and I think that is something that is a strength of LB 1024. One other comment I'll make in response to what Senator Landis had to say--and I thought he did a very good job of laying out the issue before us--I think he is right and I agree with him 100 percent in the analogy he made with jeopardy. The only place I would disagree with him is the way to keep the jeopardy going is for us to pass this bill. If we stop, we hand one side the hammer and take it away from the other. We don't want to do that. We've got both sides admittedly uneasy with this proposal. We need to use this proposal to establish a new beginning point for further discussions. So I'll stop there. If you have questions or comments on this particular amendment, I would be happy to address them. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Raikes, your light was on. Did you wish to pass over your light? Thank you. Senator Flood, followed by Senator Bourne.

SENATOR FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President, members. This...you know, I was just discussing the future under this amendment and the bill as it is, removing the dissolution of OPS that was offered last Thursday. And I think there's some concern that okay, the folks from OPS will file a lawsuit April 14, and on April 15, there will be One City, One School, and everything will be done, when in fact, this process with lawsuits, you know, there's 30 days to answer the lawsuit. This is not going to happen in the next 90 days. There is nothing that's going to happen in...okay. Say OPS does, and I think that's bad faith, and maybe I'd be willing to punish them in a special session, if they totally disregarded everything we do. But let's say they do, in a worst case, file a lawsuit. That's going to start a three-to-five-year roller coaster in courtrooms, that will be on the news every other week for the next three to five years. It's going to take so much time for that lawsuit to progress in the direction...and especially with the fact that we've set up a learning community for the purpose of working to integrate our schools, for the purpose of creating a common levy, for the