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SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Heidemann, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: Senator Cudaback, fellow members, I bring to you AM3237. What this amendment would do, as long as you have a levy rate at 99, it is going to recognize you're on the needs side. It's going to have a stabilization factor at 100 percent. We have a lot of school districts across the state of Nebraska that have declining enrollments, and because of various other factors in the state aid formula, they are losing state aid very fast. We have a lot of schools that...I can't say that they're bleeding there. It's almost a hemorrhage and then they're going to die. We bring you this amendment and this proposal to maybe not stop the bleeding, but definitely slow it down. It would definitely help the schools with the declining enrollment, like I said, and it will hold the stabilization factor on the needs side at 100 percent. As far as the schools it's going to help, it's a wide range of schools. It's not just one or two across the state. We looked first at 103 percent stabilization factor on the needs side. It did affect a wider range of schools at that point. Because of costs and other concerns, we went down to 100 percent stabilization factor. At that time, there was some schools that did drop out of that. Not to be too critical, though, of the bill, this amendment, this is based off of '05/'06 school year on the state aid which was a very good year for state aid. When things get a little bit rougher, I expect this will help more schools. We are at least up to the table. For years, we've been trying to address these concerns of these schools with these declining enrollments. We are here, we're at least up here, we can start talking about this. This is very important that we start to look at this to address the needs of these schools. They're all the way from...Senator Loudon could be affected, all the way to his part of the state to the southeast part of the state. Senator Baker has got schools this would affect in his part of the state; Senator Cunningham, Senator Connealy, Senator Schrock, Senator Johnson, Senator Erdman, Senator Wehrbein, Senator Langemeier, Senator McDonald, Senator Engel. It's not a specific group of schools in a certain part of the state. We're going to help a wide range of schools across the state. And I urge your adoption of AM3237.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you through, Senator Heidemann? You've