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It's not the proper formulation of public policy in such a way that we can all be proud and people can understand and come on board with what we're doing.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: This is too divisive. If there are remnants of LB 126 left over that need to be corrected, it's certainly nothing against Senator Heidemann, I hope he knows that. I'm simply saying you need a process that corrects for everyone or persuades for everyone. And when we are done, we must be able to say to the world that we fit in the world. And in politics, perception is reality. And this started, this came to a point where, with no fault finding against anyone, it simply took a wrong turn for good motives and good reasons. And it is now perceived very badly. So it does not bring credit to us. It doesn't bring credit to the state. It doesn't serve the people. The Governor seems to absolutely want a bill...

SENATOR BAKER: Time.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: ...I'm sorry, I can't go there in good conscience.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I support the Heidemann amendment. This is something that has been a concern to me for a long time and, in fact, I will tell you that Senator Heidemann and other rural senators as well as urban senators have discussed this issue. The issue is that our state aid formula now, as he explained, is very much biased in the direction of however many students you have is how much money you need to operate your school system. And in particular, if you have a 10 percent drop in students, you have a 10 percent drop in the needs to operate that school system. That doesn't work very well. There are costs associated with keeping a building open and a number of other things such that there are sort of the open-the-door costs that we need to consider. His amendment is an approach that is somewhat novel, not one we've taken before although it's not