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FLOOR DEBATE

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districts went gleefully about their way and nothing was ever done. At the present time, you're talking about having a special session to do something about Omaha Public Schools for God's sakes. Omaha Public Schools, we're the ones that they really need something done. What about all the schools out in the western end of the state that got literally trashed and that, and now they're in the process of trying to find funding so they can bring everything back together in order to implement what the State Board of Education says they have to do by June 1? Are you going to have a special session and junk the whole works and start from scratch and redo the Class VI school system and do your LB 126, repeal that, or are we going to just work on Omaha Public Schools? Therein to me lies part of your problem. It was quite all right last year how you done that. In fact with this bill, LB 1024, my understanding is you have about two years or more before it's implemented. With LB 126, we didn't. The thing had to go into effect, and right now they've been in courts trying to hold...change it to see if the school districts couldn't be turned into K-12s by June 1. And that so far has not been...they've not had any success. Now with this thing, as I say, will show you a little bit of history. You can do just like they did folks that supported the small schools. You can get on your horse in the next few days and start your petitions out and start your petition drive and come up with your 110,000 signatures or so and stop the whole bill. The people that supported the small schools were only able to raise about 80-some thousand. They only needed 50,000 in order to suspend the bill, but in order to delete it they needed over 100-some thousand and they didn't quite get that many. Nonetheless, no one cut them any slack. The State Board of Education didn't, and it went right on down the way and they had to live with what they have. So I think I'm going to vote to suspend the rules. If you folks, you have your choice, if you get enough people to have a special session, then I suppose you can have a special session and repeal everything we done. But when you do, be sure and include the whole system, because that's certainly the only way that I'll come down here and start on special session. If we're going to talk about schools in special session, we're going to start from the bottom end and we'll go clear to the top as far as I'm concerned. I think the way it is you can either vote for rule suspension and then if