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FLOOR DEBATE

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Raikes and Senator Don Pederson both have a type of diabetes. I don't know if anybody else has it, but it's interesting that out of 49 people in this room, that is are elected, two to three have the disease. The two major types of diabetes are Type I, in which the pancreas does not produce insulin, and Type II, in which the body produces insulin but cannot use it effectively. Type I diabetes, often called insulin dependent diabetes, affects 5 to 10 percent of the diagnosed U.S. diabetic population and most frequently develops during childhood or adolescence, and Type II also is in the adults usually, 90 to 95 percent. But as we get fatter in this society, we're seeing an onset of Type II diabetes in younger and younger people. Approximately 18.4 percent of the U.S. population, or 6.3 million people, age 65 and older have diabetes. It's suspected that half of the elderly population with diabetes is undiagnosed. Diabetes also represents 18 percent of all nursing home residents. Diabetes in nursing homes tend to be...diabetics in nursing homes tend to be younger than nondiabetic residents. At present, diabetes is incurable and a chronic disease requiring ongoing treatment. Diabetes treatment focuses on stabilizing blood glucose levels, through insulin, diet, exercise and glucose monitoring. The treatment for Type I diabetes always includes multiple daily insulin injections, however...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SUTTLE: ...other forms of insulin delivery are under study and may come to fruition soon. Diabetes is associated with serious complications and results...and can result in premature death. Diabetes is a major cause of heart disease, stroke, end stage renal disease, adult blindness and lower limb amputations. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, taking 193,000 lives a year. Overall, the life expectancy of people with diabetes is 10 to 15 years shorter than the general population. Research shows that the death rate of middle-aged diabetics is twice that of middle-aged nondiabetics. The next time I talk, I will talk about how the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Suttle. Senator