

where they're not able to be reached, where we're not able to provide that help this bill would provide a chance to fill that gap, whether it be in environmental health, which is very much a big part of health promotion, whether it be public health education or whether it be in public health nursing. And, again, the three individuals that are part of the core team would be those three, a public health individual, a health environment individual and that would be a sanitarian, and then a public health nurse. These are the areas that were identified by Senator Lynch's study as the gaps, as the big problem areas that needed to be dealt with. But we are not going to come in here with a heavy hand of the State Legislature saying, this is how it's going to be, this is how it's going to work, this is exactly what's going to happen, because once you do that the 49 of us can't make those decisions, I think, in the best interests of each and every locality and each and every region of the state. That would be wrong. So I think, Senator Haberman, I understand your concern but I have faith in the local control aspect of this bill and that's the best way to go at this time. Everybody in every region that's involved with this is going to have to work together and a plan is going to be required. The Legislature, we'll have those plans sent to us. We'll be able to review those plans. If you don't like what you get back, you shut off the funding. You stop the program. We control the purse strings. And so, by having the local control but still having the State Legislature provide the oversight, I think you have a happy marriage that deals with the various concerns that are being expressed. Senator Labeledz, you talked about a concern about what actually would be done and raised some concerns about abortion. Those concerns were raised at the hearing. I don't think you have to worry about that. I know you're worried about it but you don't have to be because I think if anything comes about that is of concern to you at the later point, you have every right to step in, stop the funding and deal with the issue. That's why the committee didn't amend the bill. We have the power, the hammer, the control in this Legislature in the future. But I, again, feel that the intent here is not to get in this area and even though some came into the hearing and wanted us to take that step, we didn't want to take that step. In my view, in my estimation, the public health people involved here will have the best interests of their local area involved, will take the steps needed and fill the gaps that are needed to be filled and will meet the needs of the state in general. So I just...I understand the concerns. Everybody seems to agree with the concept. I think the best course of