

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR LYNCH: We'll never know unless this bill passes.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before recognizing Senator Scofield as the next speaker, the Chair is pleased to announce that the member from the 49th District has some guests under the north balcony. We have a graduate level class in Educational Administration from Chadron State College, along with their instructors. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We're glad to have you with us. Senator Scofield, please, followed by Senators Labedz, Haberman, Nelson, Smith and Wesely.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I have an inclination to look favorably on a piece of legislation like this simply because it does stress some preventive kinds of health care measures. Obviously, that \$600,000 fiscal note makes you gulp more than once. But I wanted to address some questions, both to Senator Lynch and to Senator Wesely, and I will start with Senator Lynch if he will respond.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch, would you respond, please?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator Lynch, on the map I noticed the size that you've got six pretty good sized regions there and where we're...if I'm beginning to understand how this bill would work, we would have professional people out there delivering services and, hopefully, doing some coordination.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: And I'm wondering if you gave any thought to making those regions conform with some of the other regions. One of the things we discovered in the children's study is we've got different sets of regions in this state for everything under the sun, whether it be aging or our mental retardation or several other regions. Have you thought about that? I guess I'm going to say that if we decided to do this at some point that I think the area...I'm just talking about take, for instance, the Panhandle, although you have done a pretty equitable job of carving up the state with six, I'm not convinced that those folks can cover that kind of area and do justice by that and I wondered if within the committee you