

February 6, 1989 LB 338

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Can't they work with the existing agencies that are set up in all of these locations?

SENATOR LYNCH: Sure, as long as you give them this authority in this bill. But, see, you haven't given them that authority so they can't...

SENATOR PIRSCH: But we don't have to give them this much authority to have them contract.

SENATOR LYNCH: What do you mean by this much authority?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Well, we are establishing another bureaucracy to give...

SENATOR LYNCH: No, we're not.

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...the authority.

SENATOR LYNCH: No, we're just...we're expanding the responsibility of the Department of Health to provide service in the areas now unserved, just like it's now being provided in every other area, in most cases by the local jurisdictions and some other folks and there aren't enough people in these areas to do this by themselves. So it's a matter of serving people that can't help themselves, don't have the means to do it or not. You can complicate it as much as you want to by talking about layers of responsibility but this doesn't add a layer at all, it just extends the responsibility of an existing level of government responsibility to include areas. Now they can't because you prohibit that, Senator Pirsch...

PRESIDENT: Time is up.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...in the law. And this would provide that authority to help those folks.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Is my time up? I still have a lot of questions and I guess I will listen further to the debate. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: All right, thank you. Senator Lamb, please, followed by Senator Dierks.