

important priorities, I think, to a healthy state and very good investments for us in health care. In addition, besides being targeted, it's matched. By having it as part of the Medicaid program, for every dollar we put in, for every million dollars in this case we put in, we get a million and a half of federal money. So for the million we put into this program, we will have about two and a half million to expend for these services. We did talk earlier about indigent care. This is a concept that blends in with it and complements quite well what we were talking about before. But the difference is that, again, it targets more narrowly and it has a match, federal match involved. So I would ask for support in advancing the bill and your support for this legislation. We appreciated very much the bill passing and being put into effect last year. We think we ought to take this additional step to help our pregnant women and our kids who are in poverty have adequate health care.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, then Senator Ashford.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I have some questions of Senator Wesely, please. Senator Wesely, I don't serve on your committee and I have not had an opportunity to get in on the basics of this bill. I, again, have some concerns and I suppose to speak against this is like speaking against mother and apple pie. But, last year, I know that we had some bills on high risk pregnancy and so on and I appreciate all of that. I think I understand. Are the provisions of this bill required by us by new federal Medicaid and Medicare legislation?

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, would you respond, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah. No.

SENATOR NELSON: They are not. Okay, I guess I'm back to again the cost and what the doors that we're opening up on this bill. Right quick, I used a family of three, \$9,690, federal poverty guideline, and, incidentally, for a family of four we heard in Education Committee that it was considerably higher than this. I'm not saying who is right or wrong in that respect, but let's go back to my family of three, that brings the income up to \$17,926, 185 percent of \$9,690. Or let's go back to a family of two. A girl right now that has one child brings the income up to \$14,300. I have a little problem with continually subsidizing maybe in a way encouraging pregnancy or maybe not or