

a priority bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Madam President, members, I rise in support of this bill, not to be repetitive for what's been said. But first of all, I would like to also thank Senator Schellpeper, who, as I understand in the history of this bill, introduced this numbers of years ago and thank you for sticking with the cause, Senator Schellpeper, and continuing to be supportive. I think one of the most important parts of this, it's missing in other programs that I've seen, is the baseline being available to women between age 35 and 40. I've seen other programs where the baseline starts like at age 50 or the first time that you qualify for an exam, and that baseline is so important for being able to compare what's happening in early detection, that I think that is a real strength as a part of this bill. And so I ask you to support LB 68. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I, too, don't want to take up too much time with this bill because it's certainly...not that it's not important, but since I did hear this bill in committee, in fact we've heard it several times. My name is not on the bill and for that I regret. I do support the bill. I would like to call the body's attention that this is certainly not a woman's issue, it concerns more than just women issues. You know, cancer affects a lot of people and breast cancer can affect families and costs and more than just certainly looking at it as the standpoint of being a women's issue. Since Nebraska is one of the 5 states out of 50 that do not require insurance companies for mammograms, that indicates that we have not...Nebraska has not been a leader in breast cancer therapy. So now is the time to change that, LB 68 is the vehicle to do that. With that, Madam President, I urge the body to advance LB 68. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Robak. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, Senator Schimek, a few questions, if I may.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Schimek.