

SENATOR HALL: Correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And when certain kinds of professions, for example, suddenly have a baccalaureate degree requirement and some other high requirements that take more training, more time, more background, the obvious effect of that, in many cases, is to force an increase in the reimbursement to them as well as professionalism. So to a certain degree you're balancing off the need for professionalism against increased costs.

SENATOR HALL: Absolutely.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And I wanted to ask you in this case if we create this category and license it and give it this additional degree of professionalism and require baccalaureate degrees and the other things that you have in here...

SENATOR HALL: Um-huh.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...does that mean either now or in the near term or that the reimbursement to these people will change and/or probably increase, or will definitely increase? What do you know about what will happen to the costs as a result of this bill?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Beutler, you're absolutely right in the comments that you make. And I would...my guess is that immediately there will probably be very little increase. Down the road I would guess there will be an increase. I guess I would argue in terms of the balancing of the interests, as you pointed out, and tell me when to quit using your time, but the...these individuals deal with probably the least costly aspect of wellness for individuals in that it is the nutrition aspect. And they have the ability to, I guess, be preventative as much as they are reactive with regard to the health of individuals specifically in their nutrition. So I see this is prob...even though it could very likely and very likely will lead to higher reimbursement rates, that because of the type of area that they're in, because they will be licensed and they very likely will be available or eligible for independent, third party pay sometime down the road that they are recognized by insurers, that it will be some of the least costly health care that individuals will be able to receive but yet derive a great benefit from it. So I'd say I balance in favor of the