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women's health initiatives or women's health offices in eight other states in the United States, and this tends to be somewhat of a trend. Now I'm not one that thinks you always have to be trendy and that you have to do everything that other states are doing. But several years ago the National Institute of Health asked each Department of Health, across the United States, to appoint a point person on women's health initiatives, and that person in Nebraska is Kathy Ward. And I have to say that we have worked with her a lot on this issue. In fact, in the summer, last summer we went before the department's Policy Council and explained to the council exactly what it was we were thinking about in terms of this bill and the kinds of things that we could accomplish with it. And the council listened, they asked questions, and they gave us permission to work with staff at the Department of Health and Human Services to work on a product here to bring to you this year. I have to tell you also that over the interim the Department of Health and Human Services staff actually met a number of times to discuss the kinds of initiatives that could be done under this bill. And at one or a couple of the meetings there were actually 40 people pulled together from all different directions, any of them that impacted women's health issues in any way. And they met and they talked about different initiatives. And eventually the group broke down into about ten people that proceeded with plans. So what they were doing was they were setting the stage for this bill's implementation, should that occur. Now, I have to tell you also that the kinds of programs that are visible at the Department of Health have often been either a matter of policy established by this Legislature or a matter of policy established at the federal level. So I don't believe it's unusual to do this. The Every Woman Matters Program, for instance, grew out of the initiative that this Legislature passed back in, I believe, it was 1992, when we couldn't get a bill passed for mandated insurance coverage for mammography, we passed instead a bill that said let's establish a screening committee and a fund...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...for providing low-income and women without insurance mammography screening. At about that same time, the Center for Disease Control was putting together grants, and the