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them, on their own, to begin necessary initiatives without some support, some impetus, some push from this legislative body. I remember the mammogram arguments. I remember how everybody kept waiting for someone else to make health insurance available for women for mammograms and it didn't happen until this body decided that they were going to take the initiative and to force it. Sometimes there's just some things that are right to do. This is one of those times. So look again at the top of that handout that Senator Schimek has given you--"Attention". Listen, pay attention, think hard on why it is that she's brought this legislation to you and let's not forget that keeping women healthier will keep the family healthier. I would yield whatever time...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: I don't have enough time. I would yield to Senator Schimek, but thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Kiel, please. Senator Kiel is coming. You'll be healthier for the exercise, Senator Kiel.

SENATOR KIEL: Now I have to remember what I was going to say. Senator Coordsen, members of the Legislature, just a couple more issues as we have been discussing what this...this particular bill would do in terms of creation of policy making. Let me remind you that we are paying an awfully lot of money right now in Medicaid with regard to long-term care and that will go up. There's no question about that, because the population in the state of Nebraska is aging and, as the population ages, more people are going to require long-term care. There is an issue, because of women's higher rates of chronic diseases and longer life spans, that they constitute a higher proportion of persons requiring long-term care. Now actually in 1996, 71 percent of nursing home patients were female. I would suggest to you that if we begin to address some of the issues that we have been talking about that, hopefully, we will not have as many women with chronic diseases and, therefore, not nearly as high a percentage of them requiring long-term care, requiring nursing home care. One of the reasons that long-term care is required is because women, in particular, in Nebraska are subject to a