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doing some of this function at this. Is that your understanding?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct. That is correct, Senator Hartnett. Could I...could I go on a little bit more?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Sure. Yeah. Yeah.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: This summer, I had a visit from Ron Ross from the Department of Health and Human Services who told me that they had just hired a minority staff person. Now, we haven't even mentioned that. There's a minority health initiative within the department and there's a rural health initiative already in the department, and I think it was at the urging of Senator Aguilar that they got this person hired, but the news was that this person they hired, they did in mind so that this person would be half time on women's health issues and I said that's great, that's a step forward, but that's not enough. And, besides that, Senator, I really think this needs to be in statute so as we change department heads and administrations and whatever that we still have that in place.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Senator Schimek, Senator Schimek, I think my point is that if we've got a part-time person and if we can send the message to the department that ministers this, director of Health and Human Services, you know, maybe without hiring any personnel, you know, that they could still do the job whether it's "shall" or "may", you know. Do you follow me? What I'm saying is that we get legislative intent that there shall be someone in charge or may be in charge, I guess, because it is such a...I guess I will support...probably not support Senator Tyson but would simply support you. Simply, we're doing a part-time person now and if the director of Health and Human Service can get...what we would like to do in the Legislature is maybe to have one person do it without hiring additional personnel.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's a possibility and I...I never wanted to suggest that because I don't think we're asking for much to begin with. But actually, now that you mention it, if we've already got a half a person on staff, hiring another half a person to make a whole person is going to cut that fiscal note