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costs of that equipment is, and I didn't have any idea whether every facility...and the question that I was asked, I assume that some of them don't have. And I'm not sure that it's an expensive venture, but at the same time I guess it's something that should be on the record that in fact if we're moving that direction they have to be aware that there will be some costs involved, I would assume. With that, thank you very much.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I would like to have a little dialogue with Senator Byars because I'm still not clear. As he has explained, we have taken the mandate out for insurance, but as I'm looking at page 7 of the bill, even with the language that was struck by the committee amendment, we are only taking out the follow-up care. But we are still mandating that managed care organizations that provide medical assistance would have to include the test in this committee amendment. So I'm asking Senator Byars if he would respond?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Byars, would you respond?

SENATOR BYARS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On page 8, Section 12 is the piece that actually does the mandate to the insurance industry. And that is completely eliminated and replaced, in page 6, line 14, with the standard of care for newborns. So their...the only mandate is for the birthing facilities to provide the hearing test. If they don't achieve 95 percent compliance by 2003, we instruct the Department of Health and Human Services to implement a standard for those birthing facilities. But there...all of the language that mandates coverage is taken out, with the exception of Medicaid; Medicaid is included.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Senator Byars, we had some discussion on the floor last week, Senator Beutler and Senator Wehrbein were both looking at the fact that we would cover it for Medicaid patients. But I'm looking at what effect this has on other people, other parents of newborns. Will they then be expected to pick up the cost of this test? Because if we're going to put a mandate down that says that 95 percent or more are going to provide this test, or we're going the Department of HHS take up