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just have a huge increase in the number of births in the state, that's just not going to happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'm really not going to echo everything...what everybody said here this morning. I agree with Senator Pedersen, I believe prevention is so much more effective than trying to cure something that's...many times the effects are that you can't cure them. For instance, my oldest son has lost the hearing, 90 percent of the hearing in his one ear. And this...he...it wasn't because it wasn't detected as an infant, it was a little later on in life, as a young child. Our doctor was not aware of...wasn't up to date on hearing losses, and he kept treating him for this and that and so forth, and we kept going back and giving different medication, and we finally woke up ourselves and thought we should go to a specialist. So we finally went to a specialist in Sioux City, Iowa, he immediately sent us to Omaha, Nebraska, University Hospital, because he said I wouldn't even try to treat this. Well, we saved the other ear, but the one was gone. And I also know of experiences where young children where they weren't tested early, like this particular case, they will detect it. And they wind up, they think they're slow, they're not attentive in school, et cetera, and it's not because of that, it's just because they can't hear well and the children themselves do not realize it. So I think this is a very, very good bill with the amendments, and I certainly do support the amendment and the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Stuhr, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I, too, want to commend Senator Byars for bringing this bill. I had attended an NCSL conference, this summer, and this was certainly something that other states were looking at, and I strongly feel that Nebraska should also be one of those states that passes this legislation. I have just a quick question, if Senator Byars would respond. Could you review the