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client?

SENATOR AGUILAR: I think that will be set up by the local agencies that's overseeing the program.

SENATOR BOURNE: I see. Okay, Senator Pederson, Don Pederson, mentioned that some of these services are currently duplicated. Can you expand on that? Is that indeed the case? He indicated there were volunteer programs already in place that do provide senior companion type services. Is that an accurate statement?

SENATOR AGUILAR: Well, there are in Lincoln and Omaha, but I can assure you we've done research in outstate Nebraska and there are no programs. They are begging for this program out there.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay, good enough. The services that are provided by these senior companions kind of seem to me to fall under the definition of what could be called home health care, and have you explored, during your research on this bill, how much home health care is covered by Medicare?

SENATOR AGUILAR: How much is covered by Medicare?

SENATOR BOURNE: Well, I'm...

SENATOR AGUILAR: I...in most low-income cases it's all of it.

SENATOR BOURNE: So you're...so you're saying that this, these services, are already paid for by another source? These services are already provided by another source?

SENATOR AGUILAR: No, there's a big difference between what you're defining as home health care and what the responsibilities of these volunteers would be.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Well, expand...

SENATOR AGUILAR: In other words, they're not going to be allowed to go in and medically treat any patients.

SENATOR BOURNE: So there...there is a difference between the