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LB 407

would you yield to a question, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson, would you yield?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes

SENATOR MOSSEY: I had the opportunity recently to recommend somebody to the south Omaha clinic who didn't have insurance and I think they do a very good job there. Just...I was trying to follow what you're saying so I want to give you some of my time if you could elaborate a little bit more on the south Omaha facility. That's the one I know the most about, just because of my dealing with them, and if you bring in how much you make a month they will base your payments upon a sliding scale, and they also set you up on payment plans for prescriptions. This isn't...this is just for my own, just curious, for my clarification, please.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Okay. Maybe to just...and I'll put my light on if you need more time. When minority health was discussed in the development of LB 692, it was the interest of one of the senators in the 2nd Congressional District that the money be distributed there not on the grant basis but go directly to the two health centers that serve...and both of them serve 98 percent minority communities, rather than put it through a bureaucracy and a granting process and so forth. The 1st and 3rd Districts were in the plan to set up a minority health office, which took some of the money to do that, and also to set up a grant program, which is where the rest of the money is. The south Omaha facility, the One World Health Center...and I know Senator Jensen's office has done research, I got some of it...I believe it has the most visits, probably more visits than all of them combined, but that's because it serves a younger population, a lot of pregnant women, children, and so they have multiple visits a year. You can measure it by how many people go there, or you can measure it by how many visits, and so there are 54,000 visits to the south Omaha center. It's a boom, booming center and there's a sense, I believe, that it should be treated the same as the north Omaha center. They serve similar populations, similar amounts of people.