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SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Combs, you yield, please?

SENATOR COMBS: Yes, I sure will. Thanks. If we are going to include them under this regulatory board then I believe that, yes, that there's members of that board that probably would be more knowledgeable in the...what is involved with tattooing that would be able to make that, you know, decision. I think, yes, we have to protect the public, but I'm not a tattoo expert. I'm a needle expert. I consider myself that. But again, for "subcu," to teach someone to do "subcu," I did that in home healthcare. I can teach family members that, you know, the "subcu" injection technique itself, but then again you...and the proper needle care, you can probably do that with return demonstration in about a half an hour, depending on the level of understanding and comprehension the person you're teaching.

SENATOR BOURNE: So you're saying that we could teach somebody how to properly do subcutaneous needle injections in about a half an hour, such that the public would be protected.

SENATOR COMBS: That is an injection. Now with tattooing, as I understand it, there's multiple punctures and raking along the skin. You draw blood and there is a technique involved of...and I don't know what it's called, but it's actually destruction of the tissue and replacing the destroyed tissue with ink.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SENATOR COMBS: So that's a little different than a subcutaneous injection, which is basically like playing darts.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Okay. But again, it sounds like that is something that's trainable as it relates to the needle care. So what if we had some sort of a minimal training on that aspect which is most dangerous to the public, and then had a component where a facility itself had to be licensed and had some...had some inspection capabilities by the Department of Health and Human Services to go in and make sure that they had...they used new needles and maybe we could even do something like, you know, if they had 100 tattoo...I almost want to say victims, but that's not accurate, they had 100 tattoo customers, clients,