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discovered by researchers at the University of Texas--tattooing. They found that anyone who was tattooed in a commercial facility is nine times more likely to be infected with hepatitis C than someone who hasn't been tattooed. You know, we're talking about needing regulation for hair dressers, for people that do nails, and yet we have no regulation for an industry that uses needles where blood and body fluids sometimes come to pass, and I think this is certainly one of the reasons that all of these health associations have come forward and are asking for support that this industry be regulated. Again, we are trying to do a minimum of regulation. We are setting the bare standards. We are most concerned about the protection of the health and safety of our citizens in using sterilized equipment and sanitary conditions, and that's why we're looking at those facilities to be regulated and to be licensed. And also that the practitioner has some skills and knowledge related to the safety of this procedures, any procedure that they might be licensed for. And we are talking about the tattooing, about branding, about piercing, and color technology. Those are the four areas in which we have been most concerned about.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: The...just talking a little bit about the new amendment that you have before you, we have taken out a number of the definitions and terms relating to "apprentice," "temporary practitioners." We have removed all of those sections from the bill. We have still kept with being anyone that performs this practice that they must be 18 years of...18 years of age; have a high school diploma or equivalent education, and yesterday we talked about that, which might be a general education diploma; and then also some evidence, and that's what we're working on right now with this amendment, to try and clarify exactly what we would have as far as the board approval and the Department of Health and Human Services.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Chambers,