TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 2, 2005 LB 264

know people are going to watch and...in certain situations. Most homes, this isn't necessary, fortunately, and shouldn't be necessary because they have family support in how to deal with this issue, but that little child is fragile. And I don't know how old I was, but I was amazed when I was young and found out babies have a hole in the top of their head. Everybody knows that. But I can remember as a young man feeling my...well, I have a brother who's 14 1/2 years younger than I am, and I can remember, I don't know when was that, that hole finally closed. But they are fragile and I think a lot of these, like Senator Kopplin said, a lot of these kids having kids don't realize that. They don't know how to deal with it. And so if a visitation from the right person can give them some direction and some encouragement, I think that's great. I just hope that HHS can follow up on this, and I know it's probably going to take some resources, but it's probably very well worthwhile.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Health and Human Services Committee AM0499 to LB 264. Senator Kruse. Senator Kruse, you're recognized to speak. Thank you.

SENATOR KRUSE: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and colleagues. Over one year ago our daughter was home from the hospital with a new baby, their first child. There was a knock at the door at their remote country acreage and the person there said, I am a visitor for the state of Vermont; may I come in? Surprised, she let this guest in and soon discovered that the state of Vermont is committed to visiting every first-time parent in the state. This home visitor asked her a question then, which seems so simple but it was rather remarkable. said, would you like to talk about your baby? Jo said, yes, yes, yes, I have a lot of questions. They talked for about an hour and then the person asked if she could come back in a couple of months to see how it was going, and she could. Now, I must fill in a little background for you to understand this. Our daughter and her husband are not babes in the wood. They're over 40 years old. They have done a variety of things. daughter has worked with...in social work, has been with abused children, is full-time with disabled persons at the present time. She has seen all of that. She said how remarkable it was