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attempting to do by the amendment that he's got proposed. He talked about where some of these people are. I want to add some numbers. In fiscal year 2004, an average of 125,298 children were served by the program. These are children, through no fault of their own, by virtue of their birth, have no health insurance, or no coverage, and likely are not going to get that. When we invest in these children's health, we allow them to have better health, and to be able to learn in school. They can do better in school, they can have a much more fulfilled life, when we address health issues when they're small and when they're first identified. And hopefully, we get early detection, so we can intervene. And then we have much less costly healthcare that we provide. There are an additional 26,016 adults who were recipients. Considering the whole state, 26,000 adults really is not that many. Considering how many people don't even have health insurance, I would say that's a pretty small number. But I would guess that those are some very needy people, and that they too need to be considered when we make changes. There's an additional 18,298 senior citizens. Again, considering the aging population in Nebraska, I would have expected that there would be a lot more than 18,000 people receiving that kind of assistance. There are a lot of other people that seem to be making it in other ways, and that the state is not providing that Medicaid funding for. State and federal government, that provides the funding. And one of the bigger categories, in fact, the second-biggest, is people with disabilities, those that can't provide for themselves; 27,546 people with disabilities are receiving Medicaid. These are the neediest among us. With these numbers, we're not really seeing what we might expect to see if we were thinking that people were taking advantage of the system. These numbers are spread across the state. They are people who...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...are in need of this service. Some additional numbers that I think are important--and I'll conclude--that the Medicaid program expenditures are growing more slowly in Nebraska than the national average. We are doing a pretty good job here in Nebraska. Only 4.3 percent increase in 2003 in Nebraska. Only a 4.3 percent increase, as compared