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concerned that when a parent, and again I...when my son was in...going to kindergarten, it was all I could do to buy his clothes and the books and the supplies he needed, and then to put another \$150 bill on top of that, I'm concerned about that. And you and I had this discussion. You had a bill similar, it was regarding an inoculation, I believe, for college kids against meningitis a couple of years ago, and you worked with me on providing a means by which people who couldn't otherwise afford it to get the inoculation. And I'm just looking for some assurance here and in this regard. How can we be confident that a child whose parents probably are maybe not be able to afford this type of exam are taken care of?

SENATOR BYARS: Let me go through a couple of the free eye exams that are available for kids who can't afford them, again, Senator Bourne. Sight for Students is one of those, and is called the Vision Service Plan. It's their sponsored program. It makes free eye care and eyewear available to needy kids. vouchers to do this can be obtained from the local school nurses by meeting the following qualifications: under age 18, not enrolled in Medicaid or other vision insurance, which would take care of a situation like you might have faced; family income is no more than 200 percent of the federal poverty level, which is a high qualification; the child or parent is a U.S. citizen or a legal immigrant; and a listing of the VSP doctors in the areas is provided to the family with the voucher from the school at the time that they make application. And the family can make an appointment with any doctor on that list that's available to all And we have VSP doctors available in 69 Nebraska of those. Vision USA, which is another program, partners communities. with the American Optometric Association. They provide free eye exams for children and adults who live in a household, whether it's one working member, have no vision insurance, have income below 185 percent of the federal poverty level and have not had an eye exam within two years. And there is an 800 number that's available for them to call to be matched with one of the 65 Nebraska volunteer who doctors will provide comprehensive eye exam and eyewear at no charge. A third source, the Lions Clubs throughout Nebraska, are committed also through their service organization to assisting disadvantaged families via sponsoring eye exams and eyewear. Then, of course,