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keep going and to keep...they use it wisely. You know, they do not waste this money. I do want to read the words of President Bush, who recently, just a year ago, in fact a year ago today, May 25, 2004, he was speaking at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio. He was having a conversation on healthcare and community healthcare centers. This is President George Bush, and I quote: Oftentimes people go to the emergency room for nonemergency situations, parenthetically, which is very cost-inefficient. It costs the taxpayers money. The emergency room ought to be used for true emergencies, not for the primary care. So the government wisely set up what's called community health centers. These are facilities that provide primary and prenatal care, checkups, immunizations, preventive measures to anyone who needs them. In other words, this is part of a safety net. This is a wise expenditure of taxpayers' money. It relieves pressure off the emergency rooms and it provides a safety net for some of the citizens in our communities. I think it's important for us to continue to either expand existing community health centers, or build new ones. The goal I set when I first got elected was that we would expand them by 1,200, expand or build 1,200 new ones.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR COMBS: We've accomplished half of that goal. I'm asking for Congress to accomplish the other half of the goal over the next couple of years, end quote; President Bush, one year ago today. These centers do help contain costs, as mentioned. It just doesn't make fiscal sense to balance this small portion of the budget on the backs of the people who can afford it the least and who are very high utilizers of very expensive forms of healthcare when this form of healthcare is not available to them. I ask the body to please consider overriding this line-item in view of the people who need the services and in view of the eventual impact that this has on the budget. Let's be farsighted and look at the Medicaid dollars that it will save by keeping this in the budget.

SENATOR BAKER: Time.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you.