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believe that low-income women should have access for treatment. Unfortunately, in rural areas this is not the case, and I do not believe that women should have to travel 50, 70 miles just to have a Pap smear. I think the...on lines 27, it clearly states the department may prioritize applications for contracts, with a preference for local public health departments, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers. I'd like to ask Senator Foley a question, if I may.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Foley, would you yield?

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes.

SENATOR STUHR: Senator Foley, my largest towns in my district are York and Seward, and are there providers right now?

SENATOR FOLEY: No, there are not. Despite the size of those two communities, there are not any existing providers there. Under my amendment, of course, there could be. But currently, under the existing program as it's been administered all these years, there's no provider in those two substantial towns.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you. And those are certainly my centers that people come to address their health needs, and if there is no help provided in these areas, I imagine that they would have to travel to, I'm not sure, Grand Island, Lincoln, Omaha, would probably be the areas. And when you are a low-income person, that is always not possible, to be able to find transportation. And clearly, why shouldn't these services be provided in communities of this size, which York has a population of about 8,000? If these centers do not have providers, I am certainly wondering what out-state Nebraska...many of those communities throughout Nebraska certainly would not have providers, either. And I think that's what Senator Foley is trying to address in this amendment, is to provide local public health departments, which we didn't have until recently in many of our counties, and also the hospitals. So with that, I thank you, and I will be supporting Senator Foley's amendment.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Jensen, followed by Senator Foley, Senator