

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

March 14, 2006 LB 1060

things--to do screening, to do testing, hopefully, to do education, and prevention where we can, but specifically early detection for women that may not otherwise have the opportunity for that. Is that correct?

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, that is correct.

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator, if we're appropriating a half a million dollars, is that meeting the need? Your comments seem to indicate that it's not, and that perhaps there are still women that are being turned away. Do you know if that is the case?

SENATOR JENSEN: Senator, I don't know how many are turned away, and I don't know how I could statistically do that. I guess, yes, generally, you're talking about a young person who either feels something going on in their body or whatever, and they say, I wonder if I should go get this checked out. Where do I do that? And, gee, I don't think I want my parents to know, perhaps; not in all cases. But those are some of the examples. And so I think we need to provide places where young women can do that, and get those services. And boy, I would encourage, any way that I can, through education or any other process, to encourage people to go in for screening, to go in for testing any time something comes up. You know, certainly we all read the papers about a young woman having a child without any prenatal care and, wow, that is...you've got a great chance of having an at-risk child born because of that. But we do have STDs that are just running rampant, and we need to slow that down, if we can.

SENATOR PREISTER: I agree completely. My question, and maybe we could get an answer if we don't have it--maybe I need to go out and check with HHS--but I'm concerned about women who perhaps currently are not able to get this testing and treatment, and get the initial screening because this half million dollars is not enough money currently. And if you don't know that, that was really what I...the one question I was wanting.

SENATOR JENSEN: Okay. And I guess I can't come up with a