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

March 14, 2006 LB 1060

Senator Pederson, so if you would yield?

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Pederson, would you yield?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes, I will.

SENATOR PREISTER: You may have heard my discussion with Senator Jensen, because I share his concern for early detection, for testing, for getting the services for these women that need it, particularly those low-income women who can't afford it. Once they have been diagnosed or there is a medical condition, then I'm concerned that they be able to have access to medical treatment and care, so that they can get that kind of service. My concern, even though Senator Foley's amendment doesn't really deal with that and he's just changing language, is the effects of that. And Senator Jensen wasn't able to tell me if there's more demand than we can currently provide for in the half-million dollars that's appropriated. Maybe we can find that out. I'm guessing that there's going to be more need, more demand, as Senator Schimek and others have said. My question to you is, what has been the discussion in the Appropriations Committee about this amount, this level of funding, the need for additional funding, or the process that you've gone through as you've looked at this specific issue and the funding for it?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: As far as Senator Foley's bill concerned, we didn't look at this issue. It was not brought to us at all. It was brought before the Health and Human Services Committee, so we didn't discuss his bill. But I share the same concerns that you have about the ongoing costs that we're really talking about, and I'm not sure that we've assessed those. You know, the Every Woman Matters Program that Senator Brown was just referring to has a concern, and the Cancer Society has talked to me about that concern. The concern is that they have enough funding to examine and see if there is a presence of cancer cells; they don't really have the ongoing facilities to carry out any further treatment or follow-up treatment. They do it once and, you know, they don't...they should be on a scheduled basis, and that's not being done. asked...they've considered having more money for that program because, you know, just like everything else, one time isn't