

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

March 14, 2006

LB 1060

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I stand to urge you to vote in favor of the motion to reconsider, and if you do that, then we have the opportunity to vote once again on AM2441. Now it is not possible to amend AM2441, because that would be an amendment to an amendment to an amendment, and so I don't feel comfortable yet with AM2441 and I would also like to encourage you to vote against AM2441, and perhaps some discussions can take place between now and Select File that would get us where we want to be. Because I think I hear people on this floor talking about the fact that they want more services provided to women, and I think that we could do that. Senator Janssen, there are services that are in different parts of the state, and I don't know where all those 14 centers are, but I know there's one in the Scottsbluff-Gering area because I read from one of the nurse's testimonies from the Health Committee hearing on this issue. I know there's one in Hastings. I know there's one in the Norfolk-Fremont area. I don't know where they all are, but they aren't just in the eastern part of the state, just in the metropolitan area. But even in the metropolitan area, I think there's probably a good chance that we're underserving the population in this area. I told Senator Foley off the mike that I agree with him, that it would be really nice if we could provide these kinds of services at the 27th...North 27th Street clinic, because that is where a lot of people who don't have much income or much means can go to get health services. It would be very nice if we could do that. And I would like to see some money put into this program so that we could serve not only those people at the 27th Street clinic in Lincoln, but so that we could have a place in North Platte, if we don't have a place in North Platte, or one in Ogallala, or wherever the need is greatest. I agree that doubling the money is probably not doable. I would certainly be willing to consider a lesser amount to get something started in some other areas, but I think it's a critical program and I think that it's something that we should tell ourselves we can't afford not to do. We can afford a lot of things in this state that I don't always think we can afford, but we do them, but we don't always take care of the people who need the services the most. So I would strongly encourage you to think long and hard about your vote on this issue. I think that...I think that that's all I