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FLOOR DEBATE

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being served on the program who do not meet the low-income test, and they're getting those services, and that's why we're running out of money in the 12th month each year.

SENATOR BOURNE: Time. Thank you, Senator Foley. Senator Erdman, you're recognized to speak. Senator Erdman has waived. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Foley, where...with your bill, where are you anticipating putting more providers in the state? Is the O'Neill area one of them? I see that there is a pretty good gap right there. Would this be one of the areas where you would want to serve more people? Is that one of the areas? I know that O'Neill is a pretty good-sized community, in...especially in that area of the state, if you would respond.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Foley.

SENATOR FOLEY: Yes. Thank you, Senator Janssen. I would hope that a provider would pop up in O'Neill, in York, in Seward, and on and on and on. Bear in mind, I can't compel anyone to file an application with HHS to become a provider. All I can do is open the door for them to have that opportunity. They don't have that opportunity today, but if we open the door, somebody in O'Neill can step up and say, okay, we'll do it. We're already doing it now, and we'll do it under this program.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Foley. That is only if the money can be appropriated for that particular location, if there is money there that can be spent in that area. When I filed this amendment, it was my intention that we would make sure that a program would be funded, and if it couldn't be funded, I didn't want to see what we had already in place start to suffer from lack of funds. That is why I think we need some protection in there. If a program is going to be there, then there should be money available for it. And I understand the administration's position. He's trying to watch his budget, also. But I think this is a very important issue, and if we