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March 15, 2006 LB 690, 817, 1060

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. As you remember, I spoke on this yesterday a little bit, about the possibility of, you know, maybe not being able to get paid for the amount of services that were getting done in our existing atmosphere. I discovered something when I visited with our East Central Health Department that provides the services, and they said, you know, we just don't provide that service. We have an educational part of it, component of it, that we visit with the people, give them some education, and just try to improve the health. And I want to read you the mission statement of that East Central Health Department. The mission statement is to complement community health services in order to make a positive difference in the quality of life of all individuals within our service area, and that is what they really want to do. It's just not providing that service; it's the educational component that is also with it. The thing that they were concerned about was that there would be a possibility that if this got let out to more providers, which I am, you know, truly supportive of it, that they would just provide that service and not provide the educational component of that, which the health department does. So that's a concern of mine, and also, I don't want to see any more of them unless we can fund them, and I think that was really the discussion yesterday, that we need to fund it if we're going to do this. I don't want to see it watered down or try to starve out some of these existing programs, so. But I think there's another component of it that we have to be really concerned about also is, let's not just allow these to provide the service, but we need to really be thinking about an educational component of that. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Items, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Price would like to add her name to LB 690; Senator Schimek to LB 817. And I do have a priority motion, Mr. President. Senator Mines would move to recess until 1:30 p.m.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion of Senator Mines to recess till 1:30. All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay. We are