

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

March 15, 2006

LB 1060

but they just weren't all evident on this map that you got earlier. Part of the problem with trying to debate this on the appropriations bill is that it didn't come through the Appropriations Committee and so not all of this information was readily available, and so I think that's one of the reasons that this debate has continued so long, is because this did not go through the normal process and we're all trying to get up to speed. I am rising, I should have said, of course, in support of the Janssen amendment, because I think it gives something to everybody who's interested in this issue. One of the things that Senator Brown handed me yesterday was...and she's not here or I'd ask her to do this, but she handed us some information that showed if you just looked at \$500,000 in 1996...and I don't know when this fund really got established; maybe, I don't know, '91, Senator Foley? Okay. But just since 1996, if you factored in inflation, that fund would be up to \$679,589. Well, she only went to 2004...I'm sorry, up to 2004, that's what it would be. She didn't figure in '92, '93, '94, '95, 2005, 2006, because not all those figures were available. What I'm trying to say is, inflationwise, we would probably be close to \$750,000 today, which is what the Janssen amendment is all about. Again, I...you know, part of the problem here is trying to determine really what this amendment that we adopted yesterday would do, and I don't think we have a good idea of what the intentions are for this amendment. And I think through the debate maybe we're helping to establish, maybe, some intent here and what the...maybe what the bill will finally offer us on Final Reading. So I would strongly encourage you to think about this. I think that there are a lot more clinics than what we talked about yesterday and I think they really do cover the state pretty well. As I said, you could possibly argue that York is too far away from Lincoln. But then, York is a little closer to Grand Island. Seward is certainly close enough to Lincoln to have these services pretty readily available. Western part of the state is covered very well. There's a big hole in the Sandhills area, around the Hyannis-Thedford area and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...a big hole, yes. (Laugh) And then there's nothing up in O'Neill. So there are some places that we could