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because I asked him. Going back to the article: Senator Don Pederson of North Platte, the Appropriations Committee Chairman, said the e-mail was "disturbing" and at odds with the way Foley had represented the issue. "I thought our purpose was to provide health care for women, not to go after particular providers," Pederson said. Lawmakers ended debate on the issue by agreeing to increase funding for the program from nearly \$520,000 a year to \$750,000 a year. Key to the agreement was Governor Dave Heineman's promise not to veto the funds. The program pays for tests and treatments for cervical cancer and sexually transmitted diseases for low-income women. Opponents of Foley's amendment had argued that increasing the number of eligible providers without additional funding would dilute the program. They said it would jeopardize the survival of some rural family planning agencies. As amended, the budget calls for an average annual spending increase of 7.3 percent. There is a final paragraph that is relevant: Lawmakers also voted to include money for American Indian education specialists and AIDS drugs, and this is crucial, but rejected a proposal to increase funding for visiting nurses and other programs to prevent child abuse. I brought up from the very beginning, the first time I spoke against Senator Foley's amendment, the fact that contraception and anticontraception was what motivated him. I called it an abortion proposal at the outset. I knew what it was. I described Senator Foley as a "one-ideaed" individual and pointed out the kind of things that he brings. I also said look at those who are voting, and you'll see what it is. It's a Catholic-dogma driven idea. And when a church's policies are advanced through disingenuousness, deceit, and outright lies, it shows the level on which that church operates. I am glad that this information came out. I knew and you all knew. And the budget bill has been perverted and corrupted, and I plan to fight on that budget bill for however long it takes. And you know why Governor Heineman said he wouldn't veto that money out? Because he is running for Governor and he wants to say I took a pro-life position even in the budget. There need to be more people who will stand on this floor in the way that I do and call it like it is. I didn't see any other church's lobbyists out there. The Catholic Church sends its lobbyists on these issues. And you know what they say--well, that's the Catholic Conference, which is the political lobbying arm of the Catholic