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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...priorities are.

SENATOR BAKER: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Mr. President. And I think since the amendment that we're dealing with right now is Senator Beutler's, he has been standing over there, chomping the bit, I'll yield my time to Senator Beutler so he can continue a dialogue with Senator Jensen.

SENATOR BAKER: Senator Beutler, you have nearly 5 minutes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Byars, thank you. I'm sorry I look like I'm chomping at the bit. I thought I was more relaxed than that. But I would like to continue the dialogue with Senator Jensen, and these aren't directly on the amendment, Senator, but I very much appreciate your forthcoming attitude in discussing this whole thing. I...

SENATOR BAKER: Senator Jensen, would you respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I feel like we're getting straight answers.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: If you could look at page 5 of the committee amendment...you might think that I'm scrutinizing this much more than is necessary, but it's a bill that seems to purport to do a lot, but then, when you get right down to it, I'm not sure but that most of it isn't encouragement of sorts, plus a procedural mechanism that we'll discuss shortly. But I want to be sure that I, at least, understand what we're doing in this amendment. And at the top of page 5 there's new language and it says, "The department shall administer the medical assistance program." The Medical Assistance Program is otherwise defined as the Medicaid program here in Nebraska, and in one sense it doesn't seem to be saying anything new--the department shall administer